Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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'Get Tinian power to Saipan via underwater cable' PAGE 2

Typhoon kills 80 in the Philippines. PAGE 16

Garment industry in free fall

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

Once the lifeblood of a brief and controversial economic boom several years ago, the Commonwealth's garment manufacturing sector is now in a "free fall" due to a host of rising business costs, according to a statement issued yesterday by a key adviser to Gov. Benigno Fitial.

Pierce

Federal mandates to boost the local minimum wage are the primary cause of garment factory closures over the last

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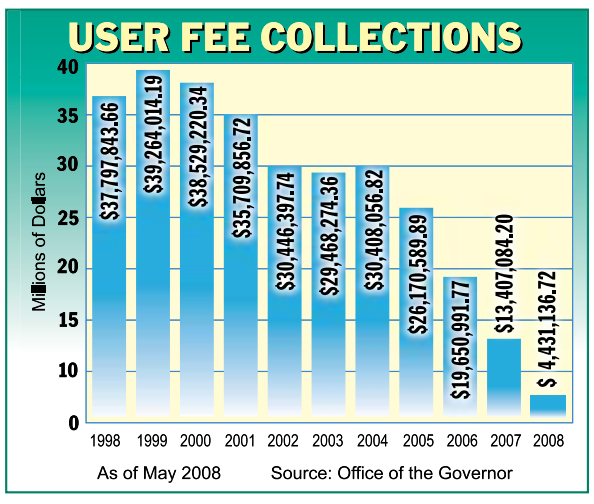

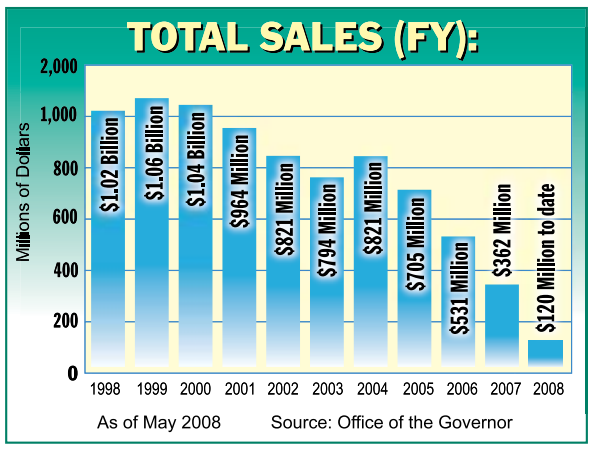

CAR DIVES INTO DRAINAGE IN FINASISU

Man dies, passenger critical

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man was killed while his passenger was reported in critical condition when their car ran off the road and fell into a drainage along Tun Joaquin Doi Road in Finasisu yesterday afternoon.

Department of Public Safety commissioner Claudio K. Norita confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that the driver died.

Norita said the male passenger was still in critical condition at the hospital.

DPS Traffic Commander Sgt. Jerry Ayuyu identified the fatality as Paul Torwan, 34.

Ayuyu said Torwan was pro-

See MAN on Page 4

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Responding police officers and medics remove the driver from the white Subaru that was severely damaged after it crashed on a gutter along Tun Joaquin Doi Road in Finasisu near Ladera International School yesterday afternoon. The male driver died in the accident, while his passenger was seriously injured.

Ex-NMI scholars owe govt over $4M

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI government is owed over $4 million by former scholars, the CNMI Scholarship Office has revealed in view of a bill allowing certain financial aid recipients to forbear payments on their student loans.

"It is very sad to know that over 4 million dollars is owed back to the government from people who have defaulted and no one takes that seriously. This government is in no position to be freely giving out money," said Merissa S. Rasa, administrator of the Scholarship Office.

Lawmakers are currently considering legislation to forbear scholarship payments for returning students who cannot find jobs in the

See EX-NMI on Page 4

POLL RESULTS

Do you like the final design chosen for the CNMI commemorative quarter?

Yes-42

No-26

Haven't seen it yet-24

No opinion-6

Saturday June 21, 2008

INSIDE

Card Limits

With skyrocketing gas prices, many customers are bumping up against pay-at-the-pump credit card limits.

BUSINESS...Page 14

Summer Solstice

The summer solstice drew thousands of revelers to Stonehenge to watch the sun rise.

WORLD...Page 17

Sorry But...

Naomi Campbell says she is sorry she assaulted two police officers but refuses to apologize to British Airways.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 21

Local

‘Get Tinian power to Saipan via underwater cable’

BANK JOB CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bank of Guam’s Josephine Benavente joins BOG’s new Accounts staff for a group photo during a small gathering.

A lawmaker has urged the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to consider the possibility of transmitting electricity from Tinian to Saipan using an underwater power cable.

Rep. Francisco Dela Cruz said an underwater power line is an option that can provide temporary relief to Saipan’s power crisis.

“While this might seem like a far-fetched idea, I believe that this option is feasible and attainable,” said Dela Cruz.

According to him, power converters can be installed on each island which will convert the high voltage alternating current coming from Tinian’s 20-megawatt power plant to high voltage direct current, which will be the current carried by the cable. The power converter on Saipan will then convert the direct current back to alternating current and feed it into Saipan’s power grid.

“If we look at this closely, this temporary relief option makes logical sense,” said Dela Cruz. He noted that Tinian uses approximately 5 megawatts of the 20-megawatt capacity that the Tinian power plant can generate, leaving approximately 15 megawatts of power unused and available.

He added that the advantage of the cable is that it can be used both directions. This means that in the future, when the Saipan’s plants are repaired or replaced, Saipan can provide electricity to Tinian either by fossil fuel plants or alternative energy generation such as geothermal as Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is proposing from Pagan.

There is no word on how much it would cost to lay the power cable under the channel between the two islands.

Further, Dela Cruz said, the same option could be applied on Rota, which is about the same distance to Guam as Saipan is to Tinian. He said the Commonwealth could enter into an agreement with Guam so that the Guam Power Authority could supply the power needs of Rota.

“Under this option, the Commonwealth and most especially CUC could relieve itself of the present situation regarding dilapidated engines and the expensive task of supplying and transporting fuel to Rota,” he said. ***(Agnes E. Donato)***

Motorists urged to drive with caution

All motorists on the islands are being urged to drive with caution due to intermittent heavy showers that are forecasted to hit the Marianas chain within the next day or so.

In a statement issued yesterday, the Emergency Management Office said that visibilities may be briefly reduced to below one mile in the heaviest showers.

Rapid runoff may also cause ponding of water on roads and in low-lying areas. Residents in low-lying areas are advised to take extra precautionary measures due to water runoff.

Latest forecast and satellite data coming from the National Weather Service Office in Guam shows an upper low northwest of Guam with widespread showers and isolated thunderstorms edging southeast toward the islands.

According to EMO, “another shower [is] developing south through west of Guam and up toward our area. Approaching showers from the northwest and south will be decreasing after midnight. Scattered showers are expected again [yesterday] as this upper low will still be hanging about northwest of the islands before pulling away to the north [today].” ***(Saipan Tribune)***

CNMI State Rehabilitation Council
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 501521 SAIPAN, MP 96950,
TEL:(670)322-6538 FAX: (670)322-6536
TTY (670) 322-6449 E -MAIL: voc. rehab@saipan. coin

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that notice that the State Rehabilitation Council will hold Its FY 2008 3rd General membership meeting on Wednesday, June 25, 2008 at the Azucena Room, Fiesta Resort Hotel at 10:00am-2:00pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Preliminaries
- **A. Roll Call**
- **B. Review & Adoption of Agenda**
- **C. Review & Adoption of February 20, 2008 Minutes**

II. Reports
- A. SRC Chairperson
- B. Committee Chairpersons
- B. OVR Director

III. Old Business
- A. FY 09 State Plan

IV. New Business
- A. Onsite Monitoring Review
- B. Local Matching Requirement

V. Consumer Forum

VI Announcements/Miscellaneous

VII. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language Interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537/6538 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY, Please contact Magin lginoef (Council Liaison) two days In advance for necessary arrangements.

/a/ **Gregorio Sablan (Kilili)**
SRC Chairperson

Publication of this notice was paid for with federal funds made possible by RSA of the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

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This ad was brought to you by the CNMI Breast and Cervical Screening Program with funds from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

No merit in termination complaint vs TDHC

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Labor's administrative hearing office has issued a ruling favorable to Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino in connection with a wrongful termination complaint filed by a former restaurant supervisor.

Labor administrative hearing officer Jerry Cody determined that Edgar E. Soliva has presented insufficient evidence to prove wrongful termination.

In his order issued last Thursday, Cody said that Soliva's refusal to return to work after filing his claim was unjustified, therefore Tinian Dynasty had valid grounds to terminate him for unexcused absences.

The hearing officer, however, allowed the complainant to seek a new employer within 30 days. Soliva was ordered to register with Labor's Division of Employment Services within seven days from last Thursday.

"Although complainant has not prevailed, I find that complainant filed the case in a good faith, albeit misplaced, effort to resolve a disputed issue with his employer," Cody said.

Labor records show that Soliva was employed by Hong Kong Entertainment Overseas, owner of Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, as a restaurant supervisor.

On April 12, 2005, his supervisor, Dynasty's Food & Beverage director Benson Mok, told Soliva that the management had received complaints from other employees that he was sleeping during his work shift.

Mok noted that the co-workers had reported that Soliva used to disappear from his work area (Casino Café) for extended periods of time and that he had been found sleeping on one occasion.

Mok told complainant that his conduct was unacceptable and constituted grounds for termination.

Soliva denied that he had been sleeping and disagreed that he should be terminated. During the discussion, the Beverage director said he would accept complainant's resignation instead of going through the termination process.

Soliva argued that he should be subject to a lesser disciplinary action pursuant to Dynasty's Employee Handbook.

On April 15, 2005, complainant approached the Beverage director and asked him whether Dynasty would allow him to obtain a "consensual transfer" if he chooses to resign.

The director stated that that decision could only be made by Dynasty's Director of Human Resources, Ronald Chan.

Chan later told Soliva that if he resigns, Dynasty would grant him consensual transfer, provided that the transfer be done within 30 days of the date of his resignation. Soliva told Chan that he needed a few days to consider the proposal. Complainant asked for, and was granted, a four-day leave of absence.

The director then approved a

See NO MERIT on Next Page

'BEST EQUIPPED'
Congratulations to Marianas Eye Institute after being named "one of the best-equipped eye care centers in the Asia-Pacific region" by *Retinal Physician Magazine* during its April 2008 edition. Dr. David Khorram of Marianas Eye Institute is shown here posing with his staff. Dr. Khorram and Dr. Mark Robertson, OD are the resident physicians at the Institute, located on Beach Road, Garapan, across 13 Fishermen Monument.

The House of Representatives
SIXTEENTH NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, Saipan, MP 96950

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Date: June 12, 2008

Contact: Representative Joseph C. Reyes
Telephone: (670) 664-8836
Facsimile: (670) 664-8838

The House Standing Committee on Commerce and Tourism will conduct a public hearing to receive testimonies for House Bill No. 16-31 **"To Amend the Weapons Control Act to promote and allow Resort Developments offering target ranges for competitive rifle competitions and skeet shooting, and for other purposes."**

The public hearing is scheduled on:

Monday, June 30, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the House Chamber, Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

Copies of the legislation may be obtained from the following places:

1. Request to the Office of Representative Joseph C. Reyes
2. It may be downloaded at cmnileg.gov.mp.
3. Request for digital copy via email to **rep.jcreyes@gmail.com**

Members of the general public are encouraged to submit written testimony on or before the public hearing. Oral testimony will be received during the public hearing. To submit written testimony prior to the public hearing, please drop-off or fax to the Office of Representative Joseph C. Reyes (664-8838) or may be mailed to P.O. Box 500586 Saipan, MP 96950. You can also submit your digital copies to **rep.jcreyes@gmail.com.**

For additional information, you may contact the Office of Representative Joseph C. Reyes.

/s/ Rep. Joseph C. Reyes
Chairman

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Interior unveils web business tool

A new Web site designed by the Department of the Interior could provide new opportunities for businesses in the Commonwealth by connecting them to potential partners.

In a statement issued June 20, DOI's Office of Insular Affairs, which oversees a host of federal government matters in the Commonwealth, said the new site, Island Business Link (islandbusinesslink.com), can "facilitate the matching of island businesses with businesses anywhere in the world."

Island business link is designed from a model DOI has previously used for business-to-business meetings. The system gives island business owners the chance to post opportunities and ideas for others to read. Local entrepreneurs and the government can also take advantage of it, according to the Web site.

For more information on Island Business Link or attend a training session, contact Michael Ada at the CNMI Department of Commerce, 670-664-3003.

Meanwhile, DOI's 2008 Island Fellow to the Commonwealth, Debbie Wissel is on Saipan until July 3. Wissel, a candidate for an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, has served previously as the manager for an investment research and advisory firm in New York. ***(Stefan Sebastian)***

A STROLL DOWN PASEO
Tourists are seen shopping and strolling around the Paseo de Marianas in Garapan.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

CLEANUP JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ
Youth volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints gather for a photo inside the Dr. Jose T. Villagomez Center for Public Health and Dialysis during the group's community service cleanup project Wednesday.

EX-NMI

From Page 1

Commonwealth for either of two reasons: the government is not hiring, or a private sector job they have applied for is filled by foreign national worker.

In addition to being financially disadvantageous to the government, the bill is unnecessary, Rasa said.

She said former scholars who have either graduated or who are no longer enrolled in school already have the option to defer or forbear payments, if they can show proof that they are job-hunting.

She also suggested that the proposal may be unfair to other former scholars who have paid their obligation to the government.

Further, Rasa said the scholarship program was created for the main purpose of building local capacity in the Commonwealth's workforce. "Sometimes, the part of the 'CNMI not having jobs' is an easy excuse for some to not even actively seek jobs or to not return. Then we are basically paying for students to go to school, yet to seek employment elsewhere," she said.

In the past year alone, five Honors Scholarship recipients graduated, found jobs in the mainland United States shortly after graduation, and eventually asked to defer payments.

"For those recipients, we are making it so easy for them to avail of this assistance, and to not hold them responsible to the agreement made by them and the government is absurd," Rasa said.

Despite the Scholarship Office's opposition, the House Committee on Health, Education and Welfare has recommended passage of the bill.

"The committee finds that in times of fiscal austerity, many financial aid recipients are experiencing difficulties in finding employment in the private or public sector. Therefore, the committee finds it necessary to allow a [financial aid] recipient who is not able to fulfill the requirement of providing service to the commonwealth, due to economic reasons, be granted forbearance," said the committee.

MAN

From Page 1

nounced dead at the Commonwealth Health Center due to multiple trauma and other injuries.

Ayuyu said the male passenger was seriously injured and was still at CHC.

The traffic commander said alcohol was involved in the accident, but that investigation is still ongoing.

He said preliminary investigation showed that the two victims were in a white Subaru Legacy sedan that was traveling along Tun Joaquin Doi Road in the direction of Chalan Kanoa.

As the car was going down the hill and approaching the Ladera International School area, it swerved to the shoulder of the road and fell into the drainage, which is about three feet deep.

The car's front portion smashed into the drainage's bridge's gutter. The strong impact severely damaged the vehicle.

Medics arrived and it took them a few minutes to extricate the victims from the car. The victims were transported to CHC.

DPS is expected to release more details about the accident today.

The road was dry at the time.

Last May 4, Grande C. Nonan, 41, died in a vehicular hit-and-run incident along Isa Drive in Sadog Tasi. Nonan and a friend were reportedly walking uphill using the eastbound shoulder of the road when a sports utility vehicle going in the opposite direction hit him.

Last April 19, a 10-year-old boy died when a bicycle he was driving collided with a vehicle in lower Dandan Homestead.

Last Feb. 8, a 65-year-old Chinese man died when a pickup truck hit him as he was crossing Middle Road in Garapan.

NO MERIT

From Page 3

leave form, which Soliva signed.

On April 18, 2005, Soliva visited the Federal Ombudsman's Office, and the next day, filed a labor complaint against Dynasty for wrongful termination. After filing the complaint, complainant did not return to work at Dynasty. On June 2, 2005, Dynasty terminated him based on his unauthorized absence from work.

Tinian Labor issued a finding against Soliva on his monetary claims on Feb. 22, 2006, and recommended that transfer relief be denied.

In his administrative order, Cody said that, at the August 2007 hearing, Soliva's basic position was that he felt in April 2005 that he was being coerced by Dynasty's management into resigning from his job.

Cody said the employer's position was that it had not decided whether to terminate Soliva at the time he filed his complaint, and after he failed to report for work for six weeks thereafter, the company had ample grounds to terminate him for unauthorized absences.

Cody said he finds Soliva's version of events to be unbelievable and inherently inconsistent with other facts on the record.

"If this worker were terminated on April 15, why would the company immediately issue an official four-day leave of absence to him?" he pointed out. "If he were terminated, why would management keep asking for his written resignation?"

The hearing officer said the more credible explanation was that "resignation" was offered to Soliva, instead of going through a formal termination proceedings, which could have prevented him from transferring to a new employer.

In order to prevail in his claim, Cody said, complainant must prove that he was constructively discharged in April 2005.

Cody said the courts hold that a constructive discharge results when "job conditions are so difficult or unpleasant that a reasonable person in the employee's shoes would have felt compelled to resign."

"Based on the evidence presented, I conclude that as a matter of law, the facts involved here do not constitute constructive discharge," he said.

Although Soliva did not prevail on his claim for back wages or damages, Cody said, the ruling is largely based on procedural grounds and no findings have been made with respect to the underlying "termination" issue of whether Soliva was sleeping on duty.

GARMENT

From Page 1

18 months, the statement says.

"It's a sad state of affairs that one of the CNMI's two major industries is almost removed from Saipan, where mainland politics must be factored into the cost of doing business," said Richard Pierce, the governor's trade and economics adviser, in the June 22 statement. "It'll be very interesting to see how mainland politicians' ideas on how to manage the CNMI's guest worker program and visitor entry will affect the other major industry: tourism."

To illustrate the decline of the Commonwealth's clothing and apparel production industry, Pierce noted that the amount of local tax revenue collected for shipments of garments and other goods to retailers overseas has fallen drastically when compared to collections during the peak years for manufacturers, 1998 and 2002. Average collections in those years reached $36 million.

Data on the tax, better known as "user fee," reveal that while collections from exports earned the Commonwealth more than $35 million in 2001, for example, total collections have since fallen sharply each year, save for a slight jump in 2004.

The steepest drop occurred between 2005, when the tax collected brought more than $26 million to the Commonwealth, and 2007, when revenue totaled about $13 million.

The CNMI Finance Department estimates user fee collections for fiscal year 2008 will be near $7 million, with another $6 million collected from various other fees.

In light of these figures, Pierce dismissed suggestions that the slow death of Saipan's garment production sector is due to reduced restrictions on production quotas among World Trade Organization member-nations.

"If you look at the history of Saipan's garment industry, the decline of sales and CNMI tax revenue began in 2003," he said. "Recent factory closures have been as the result of lost orders due to increased costs and the inability to compete with Asian production. Electricity, shipping costs, labor, raw materials and production costs have been the determinants,"

In addition to reduced revenue, the statement points to a decline in the number of garment manufacturing jobs in the Commonwealth.

The remaining garment manufacturers on Saipan—United International Corp., Uno Moda Corp., RIFU Apparel, Marianas Garment Manufacturing, Onwel Manufacturing Saipan Inc. and US CNMI Development Corp.—now employ a combined 1,751 staff members, compared to the 16,000 who worked there during the heydays of the local garment industry, the statement says.

CUC seeks power rental to solve crisis

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is considering acquiring temporary power generation as an immediate solution to Saipan's acute power crisis.

CUC executive director Antonio Muna said that, as part of CUC's road to recovery program, they are looking at temporary rental of power to obtain 10 to 15 megawatts.

"That will give us relief with reliable service or reliable power dependability, more efficient engines," Muna told the media.

CUC is currently evaluating two proposals for temporary power rental.

"That will assist us in the process of trying to at least meet the [power] demand," said the executive director, citing that the present total output of the power plants is 36.4 megawatts—not enough to meet current demand, which is at 41 megawatts, or a shortage of 4.6 megawatts.

On Saipan, CUC has three power plants—Power Plants 1 and 2 in Lower Base and the privately operated Power Plant 4 in Puerto Rico.

According to the latest CUC report, as of June 6, 2008, DCM Inc. is responsible for the rehabilitation of seven out of eight power engines at Power Plant 1.

At Power Plant 1, engines 2, 3, 6, and 8 are operational. Engine no. 7 is undergoing overhaul work. Engine no. 8 is operational since April 14, 2008 but also due for a major overhaul.

Unit no. 1 has been undergoing maintenance since Nov. 12, 2006. New issues have surfaced with foundation and requirement of a turbocharger.

Unit no. 4 has been down due to crankpin seizure since July 16, 2005. Unit no. 5 has been down since April 12, 2008 due to replacement needs for valves, injector, liner and cylinder.

At Power Plant 1, only engine no. 1 out of six engines is operational. The other engines are waiting for ordered parts and maintenance.

Bill wants to halt add'l pension benefits

The NMI Retirement Fund is supporting a proposal to halt any additional pension benefits until the program is fully funded.

The proposal is companion to a legislative initiative that seeks to have the Commonwealth government borrow $200 million to pay its debt to the Retirement Fund.

"This is a good solution to the problem of the Fund's long-term unfunded liability as it will decrease the tendency to increase benefits without the necessary funding. It also provides for potential increases in benefits upon achieving actuarial balance," said Fund administrator Mark Aguon.

The CNMI government's retirement package is one of the most generous in the country. A prime example is the 30-percent early retirement bonus program, which gives those people who retire as soon as they've earned 20 years of retirement credit a bonus of 30 percent of their last year's salary. The Fund also pays annuities to former governors and lieutenant governors.

The legislative initiative, sponsored by Rep. Heinz Hofschneider, is not the first legislative attempt at freezing pension benefits. A comprehensive defined benefit reform law, signed last year, includes a provision making it difficult to increase benefits. Under that law, a popular vote is required each time the Legislature proposes to increase retiree benefits. The law also requires that any proposed increase in benefits be funded by a new and dedicated source and that the actuary for the defined benefit plan find the proposal to be fiscally sound. ***(Agnes E. Donato)***

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JOB TITLE : LOAN MANAGER
JVA# : AD002-2008 CLOSING DATE : JUNE 30, 2008

OVERVIEW
Responsible for the overall credit administration of the branches. Manages the loan portfolio to minimize loss exposure.

Essentials Duties and Responsibilities include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

- Directs and coordinates loan activities to implement bank policies, procedures, and lending practices concerning granting of commercial, real estate, and consumer loans.
- Directs activities of staff performing such functions as loan processing, loan collection, and loan approval process.
- Establishes procedures for the Bank's loan portfolio, such as safekeeping of loan documentation and collateral.
- Examine and evaluate all commercial, real estate, and consumer loan request and ensure that underwriting fall within the Bank's loan policy.
- Evaluates the Bank's loan portfolio. Prepares and develops procedures to increase loan profitability.
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QUALIFICATION
Minimum requirement. BA degree in Business Administration from accredited academic institution or equivalent. The equivalent is equal to five years work experience in lending.

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
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Saipan, MP 96950

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
ON AN APPLICATION FOR A QUALIFYING CERTIFICATE
AUTHORIZING THE ABATEMENT AND REBATE
OF CERTAIN CNMI TAXES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that:

A. ***Public hearing.*** In accordance with the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended, and pursuant to the rule-making procedures of the Administrative Procedures Act, the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) will conduct a public hearing at the *Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe, Saipan*, on *Thursday, June 26*, 2008, at *10:00 a.m.* on the application of *Saipan Laulau Development, Inc. d.b.a. Laolao Bay Golf Resort*, Applicant, for a Qualifying Certificate, which request is for tax relief by way of abatement and rebate of CNMI taxes in consideration of Applicant's proposed *construction and operation of a golftel facility, including the renovation of its existing 36-hole golf course*, all pursuant to the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended, and as set out in the Applicant's application for a Qualifying Certificate.

B. ***Nature of hearing.*** This hearing shall be open to the public. Oral or written statements will be received from anyone wishing to testify thereat, which statement will be incorporated into the records of the hearing.

C. ***Further information.*** For further information, please contact CDA's Acting Chief Executive Officer at 234-7145/7146/6293/6245, or at the CDA office at Wakin's Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan.

/s/ Oscar C. Camacho
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Jimmy Bello Baylon
P.O. Box 10 Tinian, MP 96952
Tel: (670) 898-0498
Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Jimmy Bello Baylon, Petitioner, vs. Teresita Marasigan Baylon, Respondent.	) FCD-CN) CIVIL ACTION) NO. 08-0257 (T))) **SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**)

TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT:
Teresita Marasigan Baylon

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the attached Complaint for Divorce, within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you and publication, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Petitioner, whose address is:

Jimmy Bello Baylon
P.O. Box 10
Tinian, MP 96952

as soon as practicable after filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court at the Commonwealth Superior Court. It may be prepared and signed by you or for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the attached Complaint.

ENTERED May 14, 2008.

/s/ Clerk of Court

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB08-DLNR/FW-072
Submission/Opening Date: July 16, 2008 • Time: 10:00 a.m.

"TO PURCHASE FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE (FAD) ROPE FOR THE RIGGING OF FAD SYSTEMS FOR THE DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE"

Copies of the scope of work may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

/s/ IGNACIO DELA CRUZ, D.V.M.
Secretary, DLNR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

PTI would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on June 24th, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before June 24th.

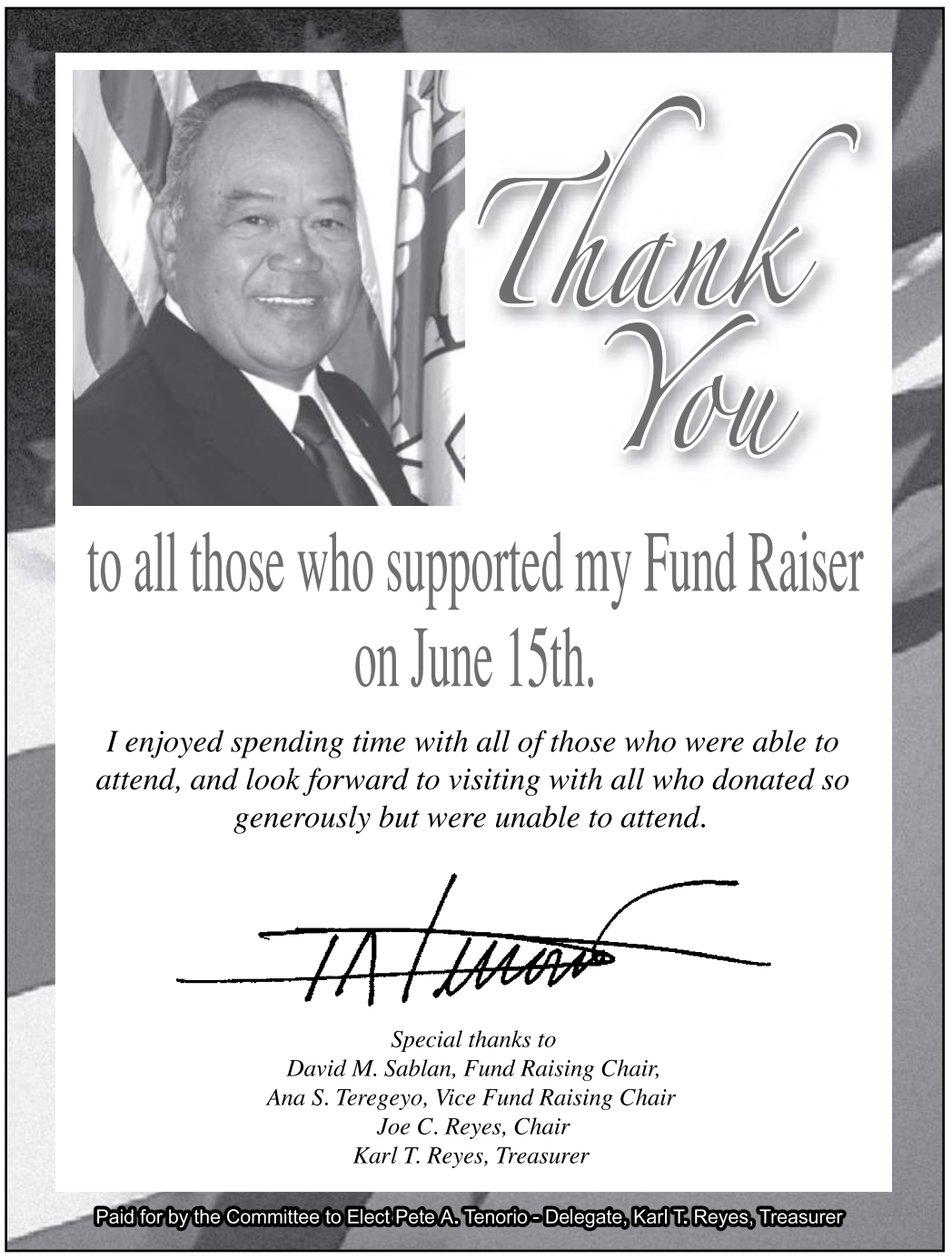
THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION PTI CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

Per an earlier announcement, PTI is no longer mailing out past due notices as of 11/01/06.

* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than June 24th. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service please call Customer Service at **682-4PTI (4784)** or visit our Customer Service Representatives at our Chalan Lau-Lau Office.

PTI Your connection to the world


Thank You
to all those who supported my Fund Raiser on June 15th.
I enjoyed spending time with all of those who were able to attend, and look forward to visiting with all who donated so generously but were unable to attend.
Special thanks to
David M. Sablan, Fund Raising Chair,
Ana S. Teregeyo, Vice Fund Raising Chair
Joe C. Reyes, Chair
Karl T. Reyes, Treasurer
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Pete A. Tenorio - Delegate, Karl T. Reyes, Treasurer

9th Circuit also tired of 'vexatious litigant'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Even the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit appears has gotten tired of the numerous appeals filed by "vexatious litigant" John Sablan Pangelinan.

According to the Ninth Circuit in its order issued last week, Pangelinan initiated 18 litigations since 2000.

"Respondent's practice of burdening this court with meritless litigation justifies careful oversight of respondent's future litigation in this court," said the Ninth Circuit, referring to Pangelinan.

The Ninth Circuit directed Pangelinan to explain within 14 days of the date of the order why the court should not enter a pre-filing review order.

"If respondent fails to file a timely response to this order, the Clerk shall forthwith enter the pre-filing review order regardless of further filings by respondent," the court said.

Should the pre-filing review order be entered, Pangelinan's failure to comply with the order shall result in any new appeal(s) he seeks to file being dismissed or not being filed and other sanctions being levied against him.

The Ninth Circuit said the court faces the same problems of limited resources in handling its large volume of appellate litigation.

Early this month, the U.S. District Court for the NMI sanctioned Pangelinan by ordering him to pay attorneys' fees and court costs to attorney Robert T. Torres for including the lawyer's clients in a $61.1 million lawsuit that the court found frivolous.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood ordered Pangelinan to pay Torres $6,651 in attorneys' fees and $282 in court costs.

Tydingco-Gatewood sanctioned Pangelinan for filing a lawsuit that the judge determined to be "repetitive, meritless, vexatious, abusive, and burdensome."

In January 2008, Pangelinan filed a $61.1 million lawsuit against judges Alex Munson and David Wiseman. He also named as co-defendants two lawyers, a federal prosecutor, an FBI agent, two federal probation officers, two U.S. Marshals, and seven other people.

In the lawsuit he filed *pro se* (without a lawyer), Pangelinan also sued 13 grand jurors and 12 jurors.

Torres represented the defendants except the judges and federal employees.

In a separate order issued last month declaring him a "vexatious litigant," Tydingco-Gatewood prohibited Pangelinan from filing any lawsuit or documents in federal court that is related to a 1997 civil lawsuit filed against him.

M. Tydingco-Gatewood said Pangelinan's actions "have clearly caused, and will continue to cause if not abated, needless work and expense to not only the court and its staff, but to any other party who has incurred his wrath."

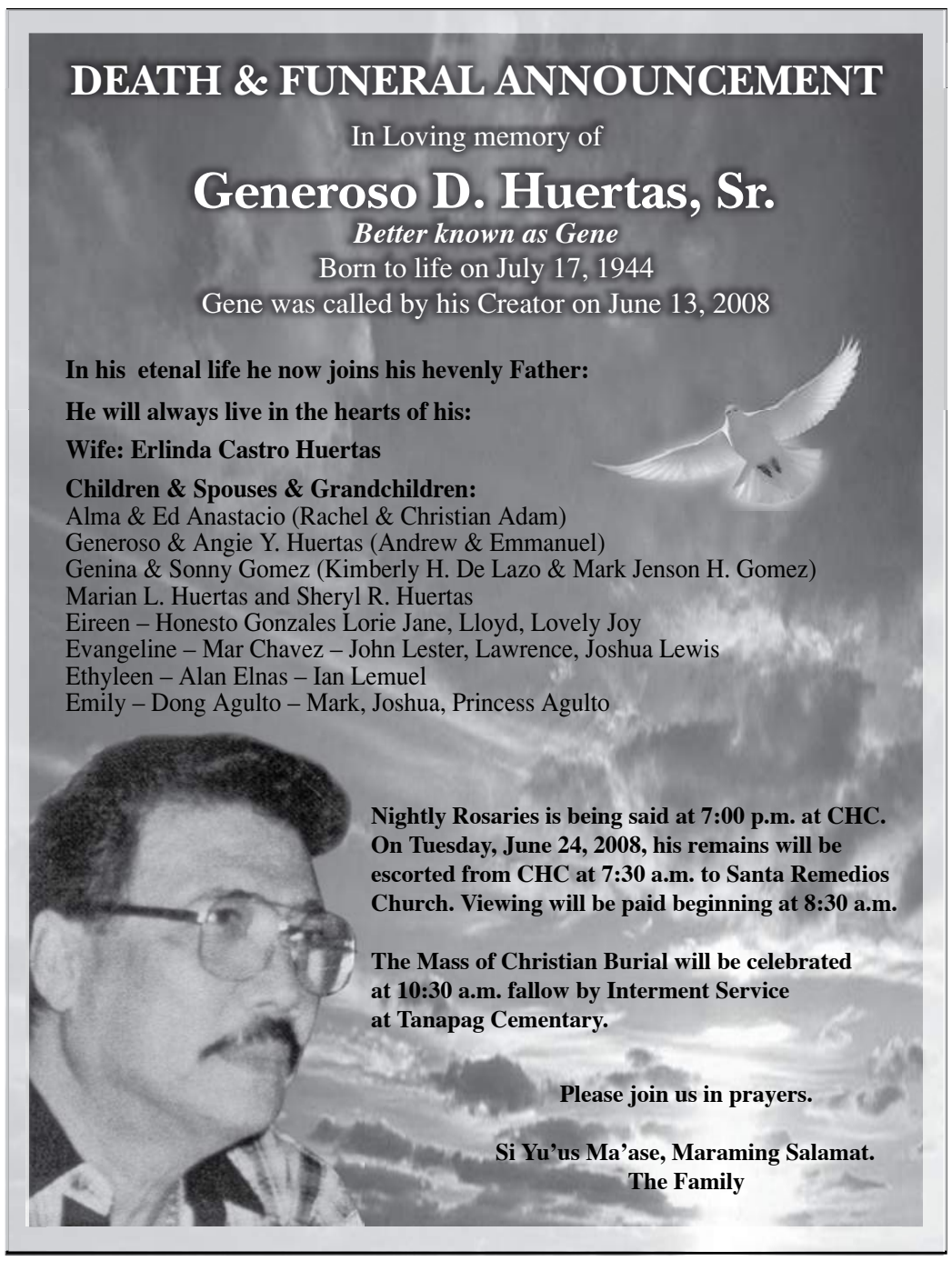
She set many conditions in order for the plaintiff (Pangelinan) to be allowed to submit court documents.

On May 16, 2008, district court designated judge Juan T. Lizama ordered Pangelinan to spend 10 months in jail.

Lizama revoked Pangelinan's probation in his criminal conviction for violating numerous terms and conditions of his probation.

Tydingco-Gatewood described the plaintiff as one of the Commonwealth's most active *pro se* litigant.

The judge noted that court records show that Pangelinan filed 18 appeals related to matters having their genesis in the court's judgment in a 1997 case where he was found liable to pay $270,000.


DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT
In Loving memory of
Generoso D. Huertas, Sr.
Better known as Gene
Born to life on July 17, 1944
Gene was called by his Creator on June 13, 2008
In his etenal life he now joins his hevenly Father:
He will always live in the hearts of his:
Wife: Erlinda Castro Huertas
Children & Spouses & Grandchildren:
Alma & Ed Anastacio (Rachel & Christian Adam)
Generoso & Angie Y. Huertas (Andrew & Emmanuel)
Genina & Sonny Gomez (Kimberly H. De Lazo & Mark Jenson H. Gomez)
Marian L. Huertas and Sheryl R. Huertas
Eireen – Honesto Gonzales Lorie Jane, Lloyd, Lovely Joy
Evangeline – Mar Chavez – John Lester, Lawrence, Joshua Lewis
Ethyleen – Alan Elnas – Ian Lemuel
Emily – Dong Agulto – Mark, Joshua, Princess Agulto
Nightly Rosaries is being said at 7:00 p.m. at CHC.
On Tuesday, June 24, 2008, his remains will be escorted from CHC at 7:30 a.m. to Santa Remedios Church. Viewing will be paid beginning at 8:30 a.m.
The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. fallow by Interment Service at Tanapag Cementary.
Please join us in prayers.
Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Maraming Salamat.
The Family

BANK OF SAIPAN
Marianas Pride

Statement of Financial Condition
(at the close of business December 31, 2006 and December 31, 2007)
(in thousands of dollars)

ASSETS	2006	2007
Cash and due from banks	$ 3,966	$ 5,967
Interest bearing deposits in other bank	$ 550	$ 758
Investment securities	$ 3,404	$ 2,272
Loans (net)	$ 13,900	$ 13,185
Accrued interest receivable	$ 156	$ 246
Other assets	$ 299	$ 41
Premises and equipment (net)	$ 326	$ 303
Foreclosed real estate (net)	$ 128	$ 219
Total Assets	$ 22,729	$ 22,991
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity		
Deposits:		
Non-interest bearing	$ 3,176	$ 4,208
Interest bearing	$ 15,138	$ 14,064
Total deposits	$ 18,314	$ 18,272
Accrued interest payable	$ 48	$ 107
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	$ 394	$ 323
Total Liabilities	$ 18,756	$ 18,702
Shareholders Equity:		
Common Stock	$ 2,504	$ 2,504
Additional paid in capital	$ 6,073	$ 6,073
Accumulated deficit	$(2,048)	$ (1,732)
Treasury stock	$(2,556)	$ (2,556)
Total Stockholders' Equity	$ 3,973	$ 4,289
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	$ 22,729	$ 25,991

Audited financial statements are available for review at the Office of Director of Banking

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Democratic Party meeting today

The Democratic Party (NMI) will hold a general membership meeting today, June 23, 2008 at 6pm at the Garapan Central Park to elect the Central Executive Committee Members. The party will also begin membership registration drive during the meeting. Please join us. ***(PR)***

WSR Elementary School notice

All parents and guardians are being informed that the William S. Reyes Elementary School Office will be closed during the following dates: June 30-July 4/July 31-August 8.

Student Registration is still ongoing. If your child is not registered, please come by the office to register you child/ren. Registration will close on Aug. 11. Registering your child early will ensure that his/her school entrance is not interrupted.

The required student uniforms for school year 2008-2009 are on sale at the office. If purchased by June 27, a set of five (top and bottom) is $108. If purchased after June 27, the set will cost $115. Parents are also welcome to buy the uniforms individually.

WSR notebooks and yearbooks are also on sale at the office for $2 each.

For more information, call the office at 237-3542 or Mrs. Villagomez at 287-3542 or 287-3807, or email at villagomezl@pss.cnmi.mp. ***(PR)***

NMC, CDA host free Excel workshop

The Northern Marianas College, in collaboration with the Commonwealth Development Authority, will be hosting a free Time Management Workshop on June 26, from 8am to 12pm at Building W at the NMC Campus in As Terlaje. Facilitating this free workshop will be Wilhelm Maui, a computer applications and economics instructor at the college.

This workshop will provide participants with the skills to develop basic financial projections using Microsoft Excel. This workshop will be particularly useful for individuals who plan to develop a business plan and submit a loan proposal to a financial institution or investor to either start or expand a business.

This workshop is an ideal supplement to the "How to Develop a Business Plan" workshop. While learning a basic format to develop financial projections, the participants will also learn how to use the basic features of MS Excel.

Those who wish to register or find out more information can contact Loly Kingzio at 234-5498 ext. 1210 or by emailing Eric Plinske at ericp@nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

Tinian Jr. Sr. High School calendar

Summer 2008 School Information
REGULAR SUMMER SESSION
Start Date : June 30, 2008
End Date : July 31, 2008
Time : 8:00 – 12:00
Focus: Reading, writing, vocabulary development, math
HONORS ENGLISH
Start Date August 4, 2008
End DateAugust 29, 2008
Registration forms are available at the front office. ***(PR)***

MHS Class of '88 Mass practice

This is to inform all classmates of the Marianas High School Class of 1988 that there will be a Mass practice on Thursday, June 26, 2008, 6pm at Kristo Rai Church.

All classmates are encouraged to attend this practice. If you have any questions, call Eleanor A. Cepeda at 483-6358. ***(PR)***

GAS & GO
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mazda3i
UP TO 31 MPG**
2008 Editor's Most Wanted
edmunds.com
CX-7
UP TO 23 MPG**
"★★★★★"
NHTSA 5-STAR CRASH SAFETY RATING™
B-SERIES
2008
IntelliChoice Excellent Value and Best in Class Award Winner
UP TO $5,000 OFF AND $500 FREE GAS*
SUZUKI
GRAND VITARA
Recognized as "Best Buy" by Consumer Guide®
CONSUMER GUIDE BEST BUY
HYUNDAI
VERACRUZ
"★★★★★"
NHTSA 5-STAR CRASH SAFETY RATING™
MITSUBISHI MOTORS
LANCER
"One of the Best compact sedans on the market."
CAR AND DRIVER
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PLUS
FREE FULL TANK OF GAS/CARPET FLOOR MATS
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Tel: 235-5065/6 • Fax: 288-7930 • Middle Road, Chalan Kiya
mazda
SUZUKI
HYUNDAI
MITSUBISHI MOTORS
*On approved credit. (O.A.C.) Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for details. **EPA estimated hwy mpg.

PACIFIC BRIEFS

Niue has a new premier

MELBOURNE, Australia (Radio Australia/PIR)—Toke Talagi has officially been declared Niue's new premier. Talagi won the leadership by 14 votes, beating outgoing premier Young Vivian's five votes, with one MP abstaining from the vote earlier this month. Niue's legislative assembly was elected by around 600 voters and is made up of six common role seats and 14 representatives of the villages. Local analyst Stafford Guest has told Radio Australia's Pacific Beat program, Talangi's election promises probably got him over the line. "He was saying that there had been problems with the governance of the country and that he'd be using that and his business management skills to help raise the standard of living and try and get the government out of some of its financial problems," Guest said.

US demands Vanuatu remove project director

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—Vanuatu's Millennium Challenge Fund Program Director, Lenox Vuti, has been barred by the U.S. government from attending a road project ceremony on Efate. Efate is Vanuatu's third largest island, hosting the country's capital, Port Vila. Vuti was the key person behind the successful road project, which proceeded with a groundbreaking ceremony in Emua village in North Efate. Washington did not give any reason for the decision. The US has told the Vanuatu government to remove him from the project or it will no longer release any more money for the project. 18 countries have become the recipients of the US government fund, with Vanuatu the only one in the Pacific. Vuti says he has not received any letter of suspension or termination and he continues to drive the official vehicle.

PNG Finance Department bounces checks

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (PNG Post-Courier/PIR)—Checks valued at US$1.27 million issued by the Papua New Guinea's Finance Department were dishonored by the banks, throwing the much publicized National Agriculture Development Plan into jeopardy. The checks were drawn from the trust account established to hold US$38.7 million that was put aside to fund the NADP launched by the National Government over two years ago. An embarrassed Government Minister and Huon Gulf MP Sasa Zibe revealed yesterday in Lae that the checks were drawn and handed to him recently by h the project owners but when they presented them to the bank, they were told that there was no money in the NADP trust account.

TASTY DEAL
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FOREMOST
CRYSTAL CLEAR
20 FL OZ
Fill up your Lucky 7 Passport and hurry into any Shell station today to redeem your Lucky 7 Passport and receive a FREE 20 oz bottle of Foremost Crystal Clear Water and a coupon for a FREE Mini 4" Subway Sandwich. Offer valid on Saipan for a limited time while supplies last.
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Shell Lucky 7 Passport
Don't gas up without it!
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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 23, 1999

Ingram seeks pay increase for police

Public Safety Commissioner Charles Ingram made a strong pitch on the need for higher salary of police officers and revamp of existing anti-crime laws in the CNMI at the conclusion of the House oversight hearing yesterday on his department which he considered a "necessary evil." Rep. Frank Cepeda, chair of the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations which initiated the hearing, likewise vowed to institute reforms in DPS through legislation.

Bidders to power project down to 5

Only five out of nine companies deemed qualified to bid on the Saipan power project have submitted their "best and final offers" for the second phase of independent evaluation being conducted by a U.S. engineering firm. Consultants Burns & McDonnell received the proposals Friday, the deadline set for submission, according to a statement from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

CUC chairman quits

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Chairman Juan S. Dela Cruz, resigned yesterday from the Board of Directors, citing his desire to devote more time in his private job. "I have been proud to serve and believe that during my tenure the Board has achieved many accomplishments. We have paved the way for a new power plant for Saipan and have a new power plant up and running on Tinian," he said in his resignation letter to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio.

June 23, 2000

Kagman Elementary School opening hits snag

The scheduled operation of the new Kagman Elementary School on Aug. 1, 2000, may be hampered as the Public School System race to find additional funds to hire the needed number of staff for its operation. PSS is seeking the assistance of Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to provide more money in time for the opening of the $6 million school facility.

DPH assures Tanapag residents of thorough health evaluation

Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez yesterday assured Tanapag residents that the department will carry out a thorough analysis of the effects of polychlorinated biphenyl contamination based on the medical evaluation conducted among the people in the village. Mr. Villagomez said he will send some blood samples taken from the residents for independent analysis and comparison to another laboratory, a recommendation which was earlier made by the head of the medical team currently handling the ongoing health evaluation in Tanapag.

Quake hits NMI, Guam

A moderate earthquake shook islands in the Marianas in the early hours yesterday, but there was no report of casualty or damages, according to officials. The temblor, measuring 5.7 in the open-ended Richter scale, struck at around 2:25 a.m. and was felt by some Saipan residents, the Emergency Management Office said. Juan Camacho, EMO's cartographic technician, located its epicenter at about 95 miles southwest of Saipan, 30 miles west of Rota or 50 miles north of Agana, Guam. It had a depth of 110 kilometers, he said.

June 23, 2003

Govt disconnection pushed

A member of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Board of Directors has expressed support for a proposal to disconnect utility services to the CNMI government if it continues to fail to pay on time. Board member Velma Ann Palacios said this move should be considered in light of the current fiscal position of the utility firm.

Customs collections up

The Division of Customs posted a combined $4.73 million in excise and user fee collections in May, reflecting a 25-percent increase in revenue collected compared with the previous month. May collections for the beverage container tax also reflected an increase-12 percent-compared with April figures, climbing from $87,575 to $98,057.

USE YOUR REUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS AND GET A CHANCE TO WIN $25.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE.

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JUNE 19 - 23, 2008

Chivas Life:
Chivas Regal 12 yrs. old
4.5 liter Giveaway/July 4th
Come in for details.

Blazing Summer Value

Chkn Quarter Leg 33#
$22.99/cs.

Whole Chicken Fryer 30#
$35.99/cs.

Chicken Drumstick Tray 8p
$1.36/lb.

Beef Spareribs 20# BBQ or Adobo cut
$18.99/cs.

Salmon Collar "Smoke"
$2.99/lb.

Heinz, Ketchup 44oz.
$3.69 ea.

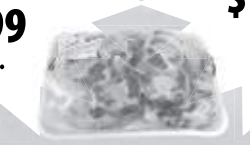
S&W, Whole Kernel Corn 15oz.
99¢ ea.

Hormel, Vienna Sausage 5oz.
60¢ ea.

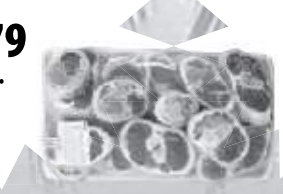
Dinty Moore, Beef Meatball Stew 15oz.
$1.69 ea.

Beef Short Ribs
$3.69 lb.

U.S. Beef Oxtail 10#
$29.99 cs.



U.S. Pork Hocks
$1.79 lb.



U.S. Pork Neck Bone
$1.79 lb.

U.S. Goat Ribs Skin-On
$4.29 lb.

Quail Family Pack 28 oz.
$12.49 cs.

GROCERIES

Folgers Coffee Decaf or Regular Coffee 39oz.
$6.99/ea.

Axxion Foam Plates 125 ct.
$6.55/ea.

Zee Napkins 360 ct.
$4.00/ea.

Soft N' Gentle Tissue 12 roll
$5.55/ea.

Woolite 16 oz.
$3.59/ea.

Ox & Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz.
$2.19/ea.

Sun Flower Mackerel 15 oz.
$1.70

PRODUCE

Onion, Yellow US
47¢/lb.

Potato, Russet US
65¢/lb.

Cabbage, Green US
79¢/lb.

Lettuce Romaine Hearts
$2.69/pk.

Garlic, Netted US
$1.14/lb.

Orange Choice US
91¢/lb.

Apple, Gala US
$1.46/lb.

Japan

Jpn Kanet Nihon Soba 250g.
$1.10/ea.

JpnSunaoshi Nihon Noodle 200g.
80¢ ea.

Jpn Aji Cookdo Banbanjii 90g.
$2.00/ea.

Higasa Makihushi 280g. $3.69
House Macaroni Gratin 160g. $2.90
Aji Cookdo Subuta 140g. $2.39
Lion Mosquito Coil $1.49

Meat

U.S. Beef Shank	$1.99 lb.
U.S. Beef Ribeye Steak	$2.79 lb.
U.S. Pork Leg Whole	$1.95 lb.
U.S. Goat Steak Skin-On	$4.29 lb.
U.S. Goat Soup SLC Skin-On	$4.29 lb.
U.S. Ham, Pork Picnic SMK	$1.89 lb.

Groceries

Airwick Airfreshener 6ct.	$19.00
Joy D/Liq. Lemon 16oz.	$1.35
Takeya Tokujyo Miso 1kg.	$4.59
House Macaroni Gratin 160g.	$2.90
Macaroni Restaurant 300g.	89¢
BC HH Beef Pasta 5.6 oz.	$2.00
Folgers Coffee Decaf 12 oz.	$7.00

Tel. 234-6230 BEACH ROAD, CHALAN KANOA • STORE HOURS: Monday-Saturday 6:00am-9:00pm • Sunday 6:00am-7:00pm

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XVIII, Issue No. 175

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MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Less demanding

Not all the news from the energy front is bad. On Thursday, after a U.S.-China economic summit, Beijing announced that it would raise state-controlled gasoline prices by 17 percent, to about $3.06 per gallon. That's still far below what Chinese motorists would be paying if they had to absorb the full effect of global oil price increases, as Americans do — but it's a start.

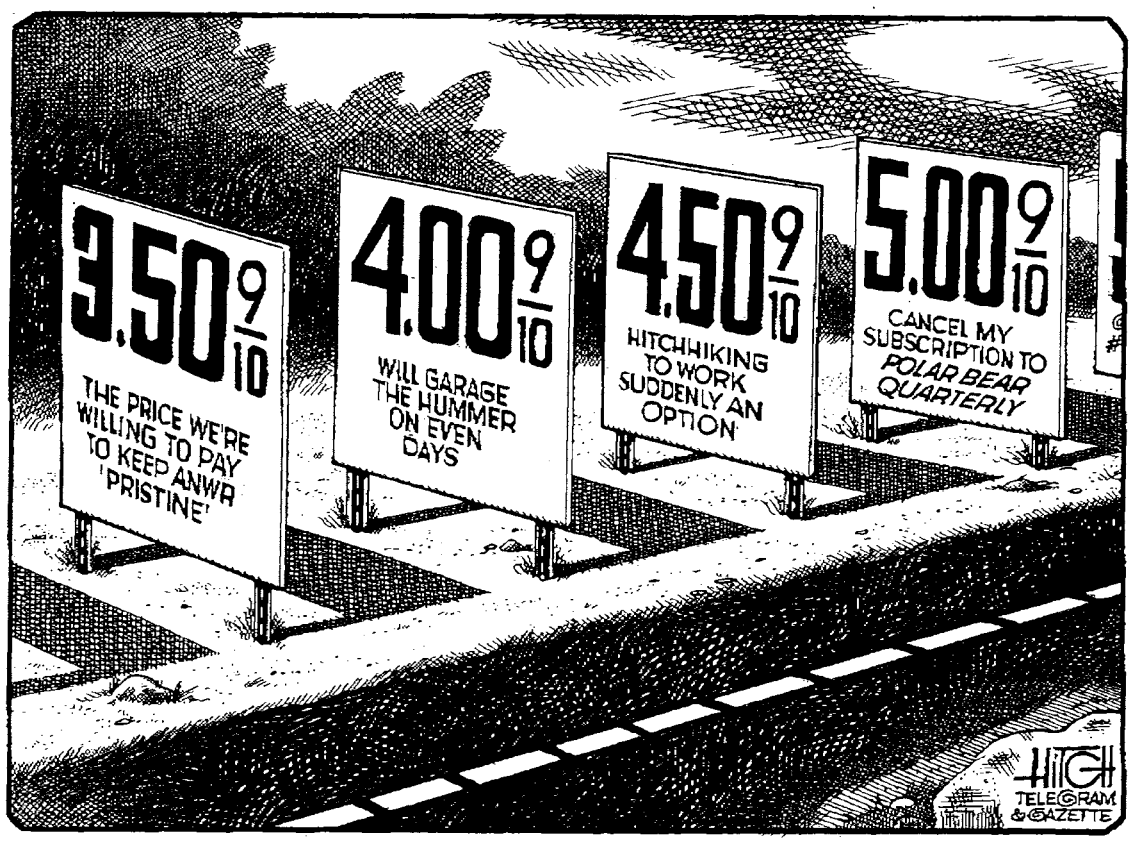
By now, it is conventional wisdom that the surge in oil prices is driven at least in part by booming demand in fast-growing developing countries such as China and India. Until recently, it has been less widely appreciated that developing-world demand was not a purely spontaneous result of economic growth. Government policies designed to hold down the politically sensitive price of energy have artificially stimulated energy consumption.

China and India are hardly alone in this regard. Other big subsidizers have included Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Iran, the Gulf states, Russia and Venezuela. In 2006, the International Energy Agency estimated that total energy subsidies in the 20 largest economies outside of North America, Europe and Japan had reached $220 billion annually; of that, $90 billion went for gasoline, diesel and other oil products. According to a Deutsche Bank forecast before China's policy change, all of the growth in oil demand in 2008 was likely to come from nations that subsidize consumption.

Already facing rising inflation, China undoubtedly would rather have avoided the price increases. And, though the Bush administration has raised the issue with renewed intensity in recent days, the Chinese probably would have ignored U.S. hectoring if they could have. Beijing had no choice, however, because, with oil prices higher than $130 per barrel, fuel subsidies were beginning to drain the national treasury. There has been unrest in other energy-subsidizing countries that have raised prices in recent months, among them Malaysia, India and Indonesia. But there was unrest in China even with price controls because underpaid refineries were cutting back production, leading to shortages and angry gas lines.

The right course, for all of these nations, is to eliminate all subsidies. The blow can and should be cushioned by direct support to the poorest consumers, as Indonesia has provided. Once the initial shock wears off, countries that allow the market to determine prices will feel benefits in the form of fairer income distribution (the wealthy receive a disproportionate share of fuel subsidies) and lower carbon emissions and other pollution. In time, the whole world may benefit from an easing of crude oil prices.

(c) 2008, The Washington Post


3.50 9/10
THE PRICE WE'RE WILLING TO PAY TO KEEP ANWR 'PRISTINE'
4.00 9/10
WILL GARAGE THE HUMMER ON EVEN DAYS
4.50 9/10
HITCHHIKING TO WORK SUDDENLY AN OPTION
5.00 9/10
CANCEL MY SUBSCRIPTION TO POLAR BEAR QUARTERLY
HITCH
TELEGRAM & GAZETTE
THRESHOLDS

A forsaken country and its citizens

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Cry, my beloved country, for we have been forsaken by our leaders! Daily we are increasingly besieged by internal problems. We have illnesses and refuse to correct them. A cancer is spreading and all our leaders do is talk and talk about it. Why have we been abandoned? Where is their will and courage to solve our problems?

Our beautiful islands in which so many of us were born and which has given us pride in being islanders is being abused and assaulted by the very people who we trust and selected to act as our representatives. Businesses are folding their doors. Our children are leaving their homes because their future has been blurred. Tourists are abandoning us because we have lost the lure of attraction. What future lies in wait? How can we change? Why do we not improve? Are we so helpless that we cannot help ourselves? Cry, my beloved country, for we have been forsaken!

My frank and honest opinion is that our leaders have forsaken us. They talk and talk while the islands "burn." All our representatives, from the top to the bottom, should be ashamed for what they are doing to us and to these lovely islands. Many of them have been in government for many years yet have not learned to be leaders. They have no shame for what they do. Thank God for the few who are voicing their concerns, but sadly their voices are drowned out by the cads who remain in office. For shame that so many refuse to correct the problems! Cry, my beloved country, for we have been forsaken!

I refuse to believe that we cannot resurrect ourselves. The plain and simple fact is that we have lost leadership! We have men in power who have no strong will and determination to act courageously. These men have betrayed us. And betrayal of trust is one of the worst crimes against another human being. Cry, my beloved country, for we have been forsaken!

A country's strength and greatness comes from two sources. One is from its educated citizens that work hard for their country. The other source of greatness is *leadership* that practices qualities to lead the country. Leadership may be defined as a process by which a person influences others to accomplish an objective and directs the organization. The leader motivates other people to perform or accomplish acts. Though I have written about these qualities before, we need to be reminded of them and how important they are. Let's examine these qualities of leadership again.

Confidence: When a course of action has been decided, the leader with confidence carries it out regardless of the popularity it may cost him. He will defend his position against all attack. The leader with confidence will act with faith and belief in a right, proper, and effective way. He knows the price he has to pay to stand by his beliefs and accepts it.

Courage: The ancients looked for it in the heart. It requires little mental ability, but it takes a lot of heart to be courageous. We all possess courage in varying degrees. But the leader exerts greater mental and moral strength to venture, persevere, to withstand danger, fear, and difficulty. A great leader does not say "go"—instead say "Follow me!"

Compassion: Of all the qualities that unite one human being to another is compassion. Simply put, a leader with compassion feels for his fellow human beings and reaches out to assist in any way possible. Compassion is one of the noblest qualities one could possess.

Faith: The leader seeks guidance to think, feel and act properly. With faith he finds fidelity in keeping his promises.

Integrity: A leader with integrity attracts followers. He instills trust in his ability to lead. A sense of responsibility and honesty dominates his decisions. His followers feel comfortable with him because they know his sense of values will not betray them.

Determination: After studying carefully the matter under discussion, he decides his position and maintains it steadfastly. He doesn't weave back and forth because of self-interest. The leader practices discipline times determination plus commitment to equal success.

Communication: The leader possesses an ability to convey his thoughts to others in a clear and forceful manner. Should he lack the verbal power to convey his ideas clearly, he manages to do so by his actions. His examples take the place of words.

Willpower: The history of great men and women teaches that willpower is the most decisive of all qualities in public life. A leader can have immense intelligence and all the other qualities, but if willpower is lacking he is nothing.

Risk-taking: Leaders have courage to act in situations where results aren't assured. They're willing to take risks. They analyze the situation, listing pros and cons. Then they determine the possibility of what each outcome may occur.

Motivation: Leaders articulate their vision and ideals to others, convincing them of the value of their ideas. They inspire people to work towards common goals and to achieve things they never thought they could do.

Character: Leaders are men marked by notable or conspicuous traits. They know how to earn respect and trust. Their form of leadership is to lead by examples.

How many of these do we see in our elected officials? Is it any wonder that our islands are in the dilemma we find ourselves in? Is it any wonder we should be concerned about the qualities of our leaders? Cry, my beloved country, for we have been forsaken!

True and concerned leaders spent a lifetime perfecting the qualities of leadership. Yet who do we know has been doing that? No wonder we are in such a mess. Yet they all claim to be our leaders. And some of them are even planning to be our next governor?!?? Cry, my beloved country, for we have been forsaken!

How many of them read and study how the rest of the world impacts on our little islands? How many understand the effects their

See A FORSAKEN on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Take a trip to sunny, luxurious, fortified Baghdad

By JIM SHEA
(c) 2008, The Hartford Courant

Shea is a columnist for The Courant.

Rrrrrrrrrring.

"Green Zone Marriott, reservations."

"Yes, I'd like to book a room."

"King- or queen-size bed?"

"Queen size."

"Smoking or non-smoking?"

"Non-smoking."

"Rocket-fire or small-arms proof?"

"Rocket-fire proof, definitely."

As absurd as this sounds, it may not be as absurd as it sounds.

The Pentagon has put together a $5 billion plan to transform the Green Zone into a shopping mecca complete with luxury hotels and condos.

At the moment, of course, the Green Zone is a walled, heavily fortified, frequently bombarded compound smack in the heart of Baghdad. In five years, though, it could be Fifth Avenue or Rodeo Drive.

Far-fetched? Perhaps, but independent of the Pentagon proposal, a Los Angeles company has plans to build a $500 million amusement park just outside the Green Zone, and in phase one is planning to open a skateboard park there this summer. Just what Baghdad needs, dudes.

As for the concept of luxury hotels and shopping, you have to wonder. If I'm not mistaken, these types of business tend to do better if they have customers and no one is screaming "incoming" every 10 minutes. But then, I've never worked in retail.

Another problem, I think, would be hiring people to work in the shops and hotels.

Again, I'm not an authority on staffing, but I think a key would be in finding employees who don't have a burning desire to kill the people they're waiting on. Just a thought, but maybe the CIA could waterboard all job applicants.

While you certainly can't accuse the Pentagon's movers and shakers of lacking imagination—dropping acid, perhaps, but not lacking imagination—their long-range planning does fail to include some obvious possibilities.

Casino: Not only would a first-class gambling venue serve as an excellent place for Iraqis to blow off a little steam, it could also be a draw for big-time showbiz acts: Fiddy Cent at the Baghdad Sands, Hooters Girls at Hussein's, "Deal or No Deal" at the Sadr City. Of course, what happens in Baghdad stays in Baghdad.

NFL: Come on, if Green Bay can have an NFL franchise, why not the Green Zone? The team could play in a domed stadium called The Mosque and be known as The Green Zone Jihads. We're talking wide-open offense here, lots of bombs, very explosive. Be a good place for Michael Vick to start over.

Cheesecake Factory: Nothing says you have arrived as a city like a Cheesecake Factory. And if ever there were a city right for a Cheesecake Factory, it's Baghdad. These people have spent years waiting in long lines for service.

The George W. Bush Presidential Library: Why stick the president's library in Texas when you can locate it in the city, and the country, that will always be most closely associated with his tenure. Think of the attractions: the Shock and Awe wing, the Weapons of Mass Destruction exhibit, the Mission Accomplished interactive display where visitors get to dress up in real Navy flight suits.

So call the Green Zone Marriott today and book your reservation. Operators are standing by.

A FORSAKEN

From Page 10

shallow decisions have on us and the economy? How many stand up and loudly proclaim that we must change? Cry, my beloved country, for we have been forsaken!

When I see men with the power to make our islands great and self-sufficient fail to attack the problems and bring about needed changes, I am saddened. Instead these men play political brinkmanship. Each plays his own agenda against the good of the community. They cry that we lack money and resources. *No, that is not true! We lack the will!* Where is their pride? Where is their shame? When will the betrayal cease? Cry, my beloved country, for we have been forsaken!

Marcus Aurelius, the great Roman emperor, wrote in his book *Meditations*: "Waste no time arguing what a good man should be. Be one!" Later he added: "A man then must stand erect, not be kept erect by others." If not to strive toward perfection what other reason did God place a mind and heart in us? Leaders are not born, but made.

I plea with my fellow citizens to our leaders: Stop betraying us and take your positions as leaders. Stop the betrayal of our trust! Love your country and your people before yourself. Summon your will and do it! Cry, my beloved country, for you have been forsaken!

A summer solstice in San Francisco

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

Perched atop the Presidio, one has a commanding view of San Francisco with its seven hills (there are actually 43 hills listed) that give this City by the Bay a distinctive character. A city famed for its parks and gardens, galleries and houses, fields and harbors, museums and arboretums, operas and plaza, studios and stations, public squares and theatres, libraries and centers—a Paris and a Venice, a Lisbon and a London, a Leningrad and an Islamabad, a Tokyo and a Timbuktu, a Hong Kong and a Rome—this city of diverse ethnicity portrays in its neighborhoods and its streets, its trips and cruises, a mosaic of global humanness and a curricula of worldwide humanities.

At dawn this day in June, the moon hung huge and low like an overblown balloon on the immediate horizon. San Francisco woke up to a "Spare the Air Day," a regular workday when all public transportation are free for the riding, letting commuters leave their CO-belching machines home and take trains, ferries, buses, cable cars, motorbikes and bicycles to wherever they want to go. With the price of oil gone ballistic, this is a welcome relief to the consumers and the tourists, all told, to the tune of $1.8 million! The June day looked like a "Good Morning, America" day!

I was a young college student in the Summer of Love of 1966 when I lost my existential innocence and left my heart in San Francisco. Love in its most fundamental expression as visualized at the time by D. H. Lawrence and sentimentalized by Rod McKuen laced the events and happenings associated with the love-ins held around the city, in places now familiar to many—Haight-Asbury, Fillmore, Broadway, North Beach and the Golden Gate Park. Sex came out of the closet of Victorian America; it was handed a flower-in-your-hair, and faces beamed in psychedelic glow. Sex danced to many voices including that of the Beatles, and the strings of Jimi Hendrix and Ravi Shankar. A paradigm shift in the acceptance and care of the body fantastic happened, and its effect reverberated across the bedrooms of the nation. The consequent sexual revolution engaged and impacted the rest of the world.

Presently, the antics of the single girl in *Sex and the City* are celebrated in countless cinemas across the world. In San Francisco this June, representatives of the 10 percent of the human race who are born with the inclination (some would say, biologically programmed propensity) to choose the affection of one of their own gender, have won a legal battle to recognize the union of two contracting adults.

Women, with their right to decide what may transpire in their bodies, have long ago guarded that prerogative enshrined in the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade. But forces to reverse that decision are once again in earnest play. The result of the next U.S. presidential election will determine the composition of the Justices who currently occupy the nation's highest judicial bench.

Free photos were offered to couples going to City Hall Tuesday, first day of the reestablished legal solemnization of same sex marriages in California. Technically, it started after 5pm Monday and the gay community lost no time in queuing before the magistrate. Images of 80-ish elderly couples as well as recognized movie personalities vowing "I do" led the stories in print and broadcast news far and wide.

This day, Castro district in SF celebrated the triumph of civil rights. The judgment was timed perfectly for the annual GLBT film festival, a 10-day display of 230 films from 30 countries, focusing on the lives and loves of gay couples and the "queer" (inclusive and not a pejorative term at Castro) community in a world suddenly thrust to confront a reality in its midst that it has long decried and/or ignored.

At the start of school in my 6th grade class in San Vicente, I inform my students that they could tell the day by the color of the shirt I was wearing. Blue is Monday, and fresh green is Tuesday. Hot red marks Wednesday, and compassionate pink makes Thursday. "Mr. V is gay on Thursday" has become the accompanying declaration. Yellow, the school colors, is the corporate choice for Friday. Brave members of the lower grades would stop me in the hallway to ask if I was gay. I would respond: "Only on Thursday."

The homophobia at my school, like everywhere else on island, is active. Young boys' insult with the words "homo" and "faggot." Less of an affront but still meant to demean is the word "lesbo" among the girls. Of course, the children are just behaving as the microcosm of their sustaining society. The nature of prejudice is that it is unexamined.

Those who understand and take biology seriously recognize that every human being is made up of chromosomes from both parents. We are in fact sexless in the first 8-12 weeks after conception before the testosterone kicks in, and that female and male traits are indelibly everyone's inheritance. So, Mr. V being gay on Thursday is a symbolic as well as accurate affirmation of the female traits that are patently part of my being.

A massive paradigm shift is occurring and the foundations of many of our traditions are being shaken with shattering intensity. The guardians of social morality would prefer that experts and the elite be the ones to dictate the practices of care and expression of the human body. But the democratization of individual choice across the political landscape is so far gone that drastic measures in the body politic will have to transpire to derail the trend, let alone, reverse it.

Conversely, cities like San Francisco, and such heroic actions like Mayor Gavin Newsom's issuance of same-sex marriage licenses four years ago, have declared war against those who would inhibit freedom, sexual and otherwise. It is as if they have unequivocally and defiantly declared to the self-appointed moral wannabes that reversal of situation will only occur "over our dead bodies."

In the prolonged brightness of day that this summer solstice provides, San Francisco once again leads the way in humanizing residents of this planet. More than 40 years ago, I learned of Rock Hudson and the word "queer." I was shocked, then. We've come a long way, baby. Lives long lived in the darkness of the closet are now freely and gaily displayed in the bright of day. The innocence lost then, is now integrity regained.

Is Mr. V gay? Only on Thursday, even in San Francisco! And, yes, the heart I left behind is still here.

Letter to the Editor

Pew spew? Or more Wespac sputum?

I read with amusement Mr. Jim Davies' letter to the editor (at least the letter had his name at the end of it), "Pew spew." I would be very surprised if Mr. Davies actually wrote that letter, since the style is quintessentially characteristic of Mr. Wespac himself, Mr. John Gourley. You can spot his specious style by the overly lengthy letter, the abundant half-truths, and the plethora of irrelevant details.

It is no wonder Mr. Gourley is fighting so hard to destroy this proposal. He is a Marianas Archipelago advisory panel member of the federally investigated Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Council, which stands to lose money with the designation of a national marine monument in the CNMI because their funding is based on the area they govern. How is your motivation, John? Isn't it odd how Wespac receives 25 percent of all the funding out of the eight U.S. regional fisheries councils, but catches only 2 percent of the fish? How can that be? Please explain that to me, John. I am confused how that is even possible? Amazing! Run that by me, again: 25 percent of the funding for 2 percent of the fish. Wow!

Maybe one should consider, how the executive director of Wespac, Kitty Simonds, receives more money than every other U.S. government official in the United States other than the President and Vice President! Talk about government waste, fraud, and abuse! She and Wespac are under two federal investigations now for using federal money to influence the Hawaii governor and Legislature. Doesn't that sound familiar to anyone?

Ken Kramer
Fina Sisu, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼78	▲86° ▼78°

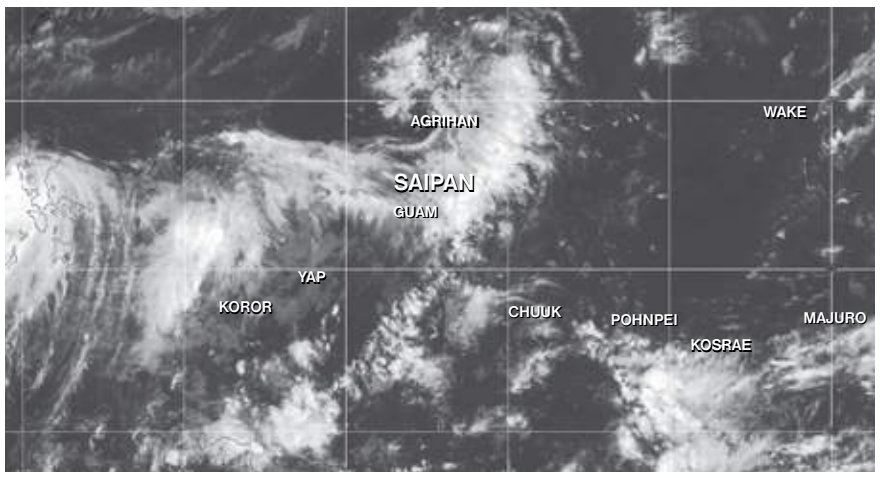
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲84	▼75
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Thundershowers	▲86	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲56	▼51
Beijing	Partly Sunny	▲90	▼68
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲91	▼81
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲83	▼75
London	Cloudy	▲68	▼54
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲82	▼62
Manila	Rain	▲84	▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲60	▼51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲91	▼79
New York	Thundershowers	▲82	▼66
Osaka	Cloudy	▲81	▼67
Paris	Partly Sunny	▲72	▼51
Pusan	Cloudy	▲76	▼65
Rome	Sunny	▲88	▼63
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲76	▼47
San Francisco	Sunny	▲65	▼52
Seoul	Partly Sunny	▲82	▼59
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲77	▼66
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼67

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2008
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extending east-southeastward from 19N130E to 13N142E and an upper-level low centered near Farallon de Pajaros at 20N145E are causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms well north of Yap and Koror but over all of the Marianas in an area bounded by a line from 11N130E to 11N134E to 15N135E to 13N145E to 18N152E to 23N151E to 23N142E to 17N143E to 18N133E to 16N130E back to 11N130E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Koror and Yap within 120 miles of a line from 1N133E to 1N138E to 6N137E. Trade-wind convergence is also generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Pohnpei, Kosrae and Majuro within 150 miles of a line from 3N157E to 3N163E to 5N175E to 6N180. A surface trough arcs northward from EQN148E to 10N148E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are forming near the trough axis and over Chuuk in an area bounded by a line from 3N141E to EQ150E to 6N154E to 9N147E back to 3N141E. An upper-low is centered east of Wake Island at 18N173E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with the low are found east of Wake Island within 75 miles of a line from 19N170E to 25N175E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
5:03AM Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet
9:23AM Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
4:47PM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
11:58PM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:48AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:49AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:49AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:49AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:16PM	9:21AM
Tuesday	10:16PM	9:21AM
Wednesday	11:30PM	11:03AM
Thursday		11:25AM
Friday	12:08AM	12:48PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota			
CO 9313	8:30am	9:05am	3,4,7
Saipan-Guam			
CO9317	4:00am	4:50am	Daily
CO9597	8:30am	9:20am	1,2,5,6
CO9313	8:30am	10:00am	3,4,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	Daily
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily
Saipan-Narita			
NW 078	8:55am	2:00pm	Daily via Nagoya
NW 075	4:45pm	7:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Osaka			
NW 083	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily
Saipan-Nagoya			
NW 078	8:55am	11:35am	Daily
Saipan-Manila			
CO 895	4:45pm	6:35pm	6
CO 895	6:45pm	8:35pm	3
Saipan-Seoul			
OZ 604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:50am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2,4,6,7
Saipan-Busan			
OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,4,5,7
Guam-Manila			
CO 891	6:00am	10:30am	3 via Yap and Koror
CO 893	6:30am	8:05am	6
CO 893	8:25am	10:00am	2,7
CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	5 via Koror
CO 933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:45am	1,2,4,6,7
Saipan-Guanzhou			
CZ 3008	5:00am	8:00am	2,6
Guam-Hongkong			
CO 909	6:40pm	9:25pm	1,5
Guam-Rota			
CO 9598	10:15am	10:45am	1,2,6

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan			
CO 9598	11:10am	11:45am	1,2,6
Guam-Saipan			
CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	Daily
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9598	10:15am	11:45am	1,2,6 via Rota
CO9600	10:45am	11:35am	3,4,5,7
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
Narita-Saipan			
NW 076	10:15am	2:55pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:30am+1	Daily via Nagoya
Osaka-Saipan			
NW 084	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
Nagoya-Saipan			
NW 077	9:00pm	1:30am+1	Daily
Manila-Saipan			
CO 890	9:15am	2:55pm	6
CO 890	11:45am	5:35pm	3
Seoul-Saipan			
OZ 605	9:00am	2:30pm	2,4,6,7
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6
Busan-Saipan			
OZ 607	9:30pm	2:50am+1	3,4,6,7
Manila-Guam			
CO 894	11:20am	4:55pm	2,7
CO 894	7:45pm	1:20am+1	6
CO 892	9:45pm	6:30am+1	3 via Koror and Yap
CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	5 via Koror
CO 934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:20pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7
Guanzhou-Saipan			
CZ 3007	8:00pm	4:00am+1	1,5
Hongkong-Guam			
CO 910	10:35pm	5:15am+1	1,5
Rota-Guam			
CO 9313	9:30am	10:00am	3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0956/0957 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0995

NOTICE OF HEARINGS PENDING AGENCY CASES

June 20, 2008 First Notice — June 23, 2008 Second Notice

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Hearing Office, Department of Labor, Second Floor, Afetna Square Building, San Antonio, on the date and at the time listed below. Your claims will be heard at that time or continued to a date certain. Please bring any documentation necessary to the resolution of your claims or defenses to claims against you. If you fail to appear, or fail to bring documentation, your claims or defenses may be dismissed, and an administrative order may be entered against you.

THESE HEARINGS ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARIFYING DEPARTMENT RECORDS WITH RESPECT TO PENDING CLAIMS. If your claims have been haeard, settled, or withdrawn, or you do not wish to pursue your claim, you do not need to appear for the hearings on the schedule below.

If your case has already been resolved through a hearing on an individual labor case, the order in that case is binding and will be adopted in the agency case. There will be no different resolution through the agency case. If your case has been resolved through a settlement, or you are a claimant and wish to withdraw your claims, please call Jeffrey Camacho, Investigator, 236-0960, or come to the Enforcement Office at the Department of Labor.

Case No.	Employee	Employer	Hearing Date	Time
06-157-11	Aguilar, Gina H.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
04-813 E	Aranda, Marlou		June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-009-02	Ararao, Jimy C.	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City & Tagorda, M. Teresa T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-155-11	Arcos, M. Digna M.	Rejoice Beauty Salon and Dress Shop	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-161-12	Arellano, M. Loreta M.	Tropical Productions	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-158-11	Asakit, Chai	Cabrera, Joaquin S.	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-009-02	Baldomero, Shirley D.	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City Tagorda, M. Teresa T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-094-07	Baluso, Espie M.	Handsome Textile Saipan	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-157-11	Barbosa, Nenita B.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-146-11	Barraquias, Benefredo B.	Americana Construction Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Bi, Xiu Juan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-157-11	Bronoso, Cenon C.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
07-330	Buerano, Razon M.	Philipan Int'l, Inc.	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-159-11	Cai, Zhongping	Great Corporation	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-157-11	Calage, Erwin S.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-009-02	Casilla, Annie Par	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City & Tagorda, M. Teresa T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-150-11	Casimero, Marieta R.	Saint Trading	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-111-08	Chen, Faqiang	JM Sablan Co. & Tito M. Sablan	June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
99-248	Chen, Qi	Trans-Asia Garment Forte Corp.	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-117-08	Cheng, Rongsheng	MZ Corporation	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-117-08	Cheng, Xiaoping	MZ Corporation	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Cui, Chunyu	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	* June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Cui, Jiahong	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Cui, Meiyue	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Cui, Mingjin	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Cui, Pengyan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-003-01	Dang, Thoi Thi	Winner's II	June 26, 2008	10:00 a.m..
06-157-11	Dedal, Alvin G.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-002-01	Del Castillo, Jennifer M.	Star Four Corporation	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
01-080-05	Dela Torre, Mary Ann	White House Ent., dba Moon Night Club	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-009-02	Delos Reyes, Ligaya C.	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City & Tagorda, M. Teresa T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-157-11	Delos Santos, Agerico M.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-147-11	Doton, Lucita P.	Asia West Investment dba Paradise	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-147-11	Dowez, Monico D.	Asia West Investment dba Paradise	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-009-02	Esmores, Emma Q.	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City & Tagorda, M. Teresa T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-146-11	Evangelista, Celedonio M.	Americana Construction Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-141-10	Fan, Chunyan	K&K Corporation	June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Fan, Jingxin	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Feng, Lin	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-146-11	Galsote, Eva C.	Americana Construction Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-094-07	Gatdula, Yolisie M.	Handsome Textile Saipan	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-094-07	Gomes, Nirmal	Handsome Textile Saipan	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
05-116-09	Gonzales, Erlinda P.	L and W Amusement Corp.	June 24, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Gu, Liwei	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-157-11	Guinto, Ambrocio R.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-094-07	Gunnacao, Marieta P.	Handsome Textile Saipan	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-076-06	Guo, Feng Zhen	Rongli Development Corp.	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-085-07	Gustar, Jose E.	Michelle Corporation	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-085-07	Gustar, Orlando E.	Michelle Corporation	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Hipolito, Leonila P.	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
99-249	Huang, Hong Ying	Trans-Asia Garment Forte Corp.	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-117-08	Huang, Jiawei	MZ Corporation	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-147-11	Jetomo, Pablo V.	Asia West Investment dba Paradise	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Jin, Hailan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Jin, Lan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Jin, Shanji	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-038-05	Jin, Shannu	Uno Moda Corporation	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Jin, Yinghua	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-119-09	Kim, Jae Jung	M&L, Ltd. and Sky International	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-003-01	Kong, Jun	Winner's II	June 26, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-002-01	Lactac, Jacquelene A.	Star Four Corporation	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-161-12	Larin, Estelito Z.	Tropical Productions	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-005-01	Li, Dongmei	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
99-186	Li, Heng Xie	United International Corp.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Li, Meiling	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-159-11	Li, Ping	Great Corporation	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-077-06	Li, Xiang Yang		June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Li, Xianzi	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-094-07	Li, Xiaofeng	Handsome Textile Saipan	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-005-01	Li, Yafan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Li, Yinan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Li, Yingzi	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-003-01	Li, Yuxue	Winner's II	June 26, 2008	10:00 a.m..
06-001-01	Lin, Guiyue	H.I. Corporation	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
04-634	Lin, Huijuan	Concorde Garment MFG Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
04-304	Lin, Ya Nong	Mariano K. Pangelinan	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-149-11	Liu, Haihua	CS Corporation	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Liu, Yan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Liu, Yue E	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-141-10	Long, Xiaohong	K&K Corporation	June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-157-11	Lorenzo, Honeylyn S.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-157-11	Lorenzo, Renante B.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-094-07	Lorenzo, Susana L.	Handsome Textile Saipan	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-003-01	Macaraeg, Jaime	Winner's II	June 26, 2008	10:00 a.m..
06-009-02	Madrinn, Oliver M.	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City & Tagorda, M. Teresa T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-009-02	Magbanua, Riza B.	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City & Tagorda, M. Teresa T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-003-01	Mai, Tham Thi	Winner's II	June 26, 2008	10:00 a.m..
06-005-01	Man, Jinfeng	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.

Case No.	Employee	Employer	Hearing Date	Time
06-094-07	Masangkay, Remedios E.	Handsome Textile Saipan	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-107-08	Matias, Daisy P.	Jones, Joseph	June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-001-01	Mempin, Alex E.	H.I. Corporation	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-009-02	Miguel, July T.	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City & Tagorda, M. Teresa T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-094-07	Mosquera, Merlita S.	Handsome Textile Saipan	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-003-01	Nguyen, Kim Thuy Thi	Winner's II	June 26, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-077-06	Ni, Weixin		June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-094-07	Oclarino, Agnes A.	Handsome Textile Saipan	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-115-08	Oraa, Siony O.	Seman, Vicente T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-112-08	Pacho, Orlando R.	Sablan Enterprises	June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-157-11	Palaganas, Edwin C.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Pan, Hongmin	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-074-06	Parial, Aurora S.	Cabrera, Rosalia	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-146-11	Pasamonte, Wilson M.	Americana Construction Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
07-111	Peng, Siqin	Mirage Saipan, Ltd.	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-074-06	Pesado, M. Mila C.	Cabrera, Rosalia	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-146-11	Piao, Fengjun	Americana Construction Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Piao, Jiyu	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Piao, Shunni	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Piao, Xiangshan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Qu, Dehui	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-002-01	Raga, Mary Grace P.	Star Four Corporation	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
02-209	Rahman, Md Mostafizur	Island Security Services	June 26, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-002-01	Repe, Jo-Ann A.	Star Four Corporation	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-009-02	Ret, Michelle A.	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City & Tagorda, M. Teresa T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-120-09	Rong, Xiaoyan	RYU Corp. dba Ipukku Restaurant	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-009-02	Roque, Willy T.	Maribeth Corp. dba Tambayan and Hot City & Tagorda, M. Teresa T.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-146-11	Samson, Paquito V.	Americana Construction Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-074-06	Sanarez, Shielyna S.	Cabrera, Rosalia	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-161-12	Sanchez, Ireneo B.	Tropical Productions	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-094-07	Santos, Jeanie DLC	Handsome Textile Saipan	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-002-01	Santos, Rosalinda R.	Star Four Corporation	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-005-01	Savellano, Jessie J.R.	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Shen, Li	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-141-10	Shen, Yuanneng	&K Corporation	une 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
07-367	Shimizu, Tomoko	EIC Mariana, Inc.	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-120-09	Shuyan, Song	RYU Corp. dba Ipukku Restaurant	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-002-01	Soriano, Rhiza S.	Star Four Corporation	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-002-01	Sotto, Vivean D.	Star Four Corporation	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-152	Su, Xuejun	Magofna, Rosalina	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-003-01	Suangsiri, Chomyong	Winner's II	June 26, 2008	10:00 a.m..
06-111-08	Suba, Moises G.	JM Sablan Co. & Tito M. Sablan	June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Sun, Chunhua	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Sun, Haiying	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Sun, Jing	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-143-11	Surisantos, Antonio B.	Herman's Modern Bakery	June 26, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-001-01	Tala, Marie C.N.	H.I. Corporation	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-002-01	Tingson, Jeniffer M.	Star Four Corporation	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-158-11	Tuan-Iam, Siriphorn	Cabrera, Joaquin S.	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-003-01	Vu, Ngatthi	Winner's II	une 26, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-004-01	Wan, Yan Lin	Dela Rosa, Elinor; Xu, Hong Qin; Chen, Ce; and Hu, Min	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-095-07	Wang, Fang	Concorde Garment MFG Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Wang, Furong	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-159-11	Wang, Jinghong	Great Corporation	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-082-06	Wang, Li	Great Sunshine Corporation	June 25, 2008	12:00 p.m.
99-249	Wang, Mei Lan	Trans-Asia Garment Forte Corp.	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
06-005-01	Wang, Shulan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-163	Wang, Xan Zhen	American Sai Green Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Wang, Xiaowei	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Wang, Xue	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Wang, Yan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-159-11	Weng, Longgui	Great Corporation	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-003-01	Wu, Chunyun	Winner's II	June 26, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-146-11	Wu, Junmo	Americana Construction Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-146-11	Wu, Shanmo	Americana Construction Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
05-244	Wu, Zhen Ming	Chen's Corporation	June 25, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-131-10	Xie, Bingxin	Li and Fung Exports, Ltd.	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
04-634	Xie, Guangqin	Concorde Garment MFG Corp.	June 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-003-01	Xing, Wenlai	Winner's II	June 26, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Xu, Guibin	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Xu, Guohua	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.\	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-003-01	Xu, Qian Jun	Winner's II	June 26, 2008	10:00 a.m.
99-249	Xu, Qiao Yun	Trans-Asia Garment Forte Corp.	June 27, 2008	12:00 p.m.
07-319	Xu, Xiang Ling	US CNMI Development Corp.	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-112-08	Xu, Yufeng	Sablan Enterprises	June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Xu, Zhenshi	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-154-11	Xuan, Haozhe	Samsung Corporation	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-141-10	Yang, Huan	K&K Corporation	June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Yang, Meihua	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-157-11	Yanto, Rommel E.	Cabrera, Francisco C.	June 25, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-076-06	Yu, Min	Rongli Development Corp.	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Zang, Zhenyong	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-025-03	Zhang, Fu		June 27, 2008	9:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Zhang, Min	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Zhang, Xiangshu	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Zhao, Xiujuan	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-018-03	Zheng, Guo Zhen	YZL Corporation	June 27, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-120-09	Zhou, Lu Yu	RYU Corp. dba Ipukku Restaurant	June 27, 2008	10:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Zhu, Guiying	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.
06-005-01	Zhu, Yanhui	Hyunjin Saipan, Inc.	June 26, 2008	11:00 a.m.

Business

Refueling can hit credit card limits

By SIMONE BARIBEAU
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WASHINGTON—The pump slowed and cut off Brendan Baker's gasoline purchase at $74. He returned the nozzle to the pump, swiped his credit card a second time, then put the nozzle back in his 2000 Dodge Ram 1500 and continued fueling. He finished pumping and looked at his two receipts, which totaled $95.23.

"Normally I don't keep them because they remind me how much money I wasted," said Baker, a computer technician refueling at his local Sunoco station in Centreville, Va.

With skyrocketing gas prices, many customers are bumping up against pay-at-the-pump credit card limits—often $75. Rules limiting these transactions are nothing new, but with gas prices exceeding $4 per gallon, it's increasingly easy to exceed the limit, leaving many customers to face the hassle of dealing with two-transaction purchases.

At the station where Baker was filling up, 30 to 50 cars out of a total of about 900 hit the limit each day, according to the station owner. On a recent Saturday afternoon, the station bustled with Toyota 4Runners, Tacomas and other fuel-thirsty vehicles.

Back in 2003, when Jeff Urban bought his Hummer, paying $75 to fill up would have been unthinkable. But now, Urban joked, his goliath SUV will soon be a three-transaction vehicle.

Customers who pay inside stations can still use their credit cards like anywhere else and face no limit.

But at the pump, the size of credit card purchases has been limited largely to protect gas stations, which can be charged if there's a problem with the transactions. Purchases at the pump are particularly vulnerable to trouble since no signature is required to verify the user's identity. And since the credit card is swiped before the gas is pumped, there's no way to know the size of the purchase when it's authorized.

Visa, MasterCard and Discover Card generally guarantee that merchants will be paid the first $75 of a pay-at-the-pump transaction. American Express determines its limits based on the contractual relationship with the companies. But beyond those levels, gas stations are more likely to foot the bill in what are called charge backs if a transaction is bad.

Gas station owners and managers say they are already hard-pressed to hand more money back to credit card issuers. The high price of gasoline has left many stations in a financial fix. They've squeezed their average markup to remain competitive and the interchange fees they pay to credit card issuers, which rise with the sale price, are up.

The average station makes a profit of $60 at the pump per day, says Jeff Lenard, a spokesman for the National Association of Convenience Stores. "It's not uncommon to lose money selling gas. So the idea of losing $20 or $50 (in charge backs) is too much."

Visa recently amended its rules to make it less risky for stations to increase the limit on pay-at-the-pump sales. Until April 2007, merchants could be charged the entire amount of any bad purchase over $50. That month, Visa changed its rules so that merchants were liable only for the amount of the purchase that exceeded $50. In April of this year, Visa increased the limit to $75.

Discover has also increased its limit to $75 from $50. MasterCard has had a $75 limit for several years.

Stations "are faced with two bad options—allow the pump to go beyond $75 and risk not getting paid ... or take a customer from frustrated (with gas prices) to outright anger," Lenard said.

THE WASHINGTON POST
Keri Johnson of Bowie, Md., spent $68.68 to fill her vehicle. Many customers are bumping up against pay-at-the-pump credit card limits, typically $75.

US energy chief: Low oil production drives price

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—The U.S. energy secretary said Saturday that insufficient oil production, not financial speculation, was driving soaring crude prices.

Secretary Samuel Bodman's comments on the eve of an energy summit in the Saudi port city of Jiddah set the stage for a showdown between the U.S. and conference host Saudi Arabia, which has largely blamed speculation in the oil markets for record prices.

The U.S. and many other Western nations have put increasing pressure on Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil exporter, to increase production. Saudi officials have been hesitant to do so, arguing that soaring prices have not been caused by a shortage of supply.

Bodman disputed that assertion Saturday, saying oil production has not kept pace with growing demand, especially from developing countries like China and India.

"Market fundamentals show us that production has not kept pace with growing demand for oil, resulting in increasing prices and increasingly volatile prices," Bodman told reporters. "There is no evidence that we can find that speculators are driving futures prices" for oil.

Saudi Arabia called the unusual meeting in Jiddah between oil producing and consuming nations as a way to show that it was not deaf to international cries that high oil prices have caused social and economic turmoil.

The Gulf nation has also become increasingly concerned that record oil prices could hinder growth in the U.S. and other major industrialized economies, potentially leading to a decline in oil demand and a sharp drop-off in prices.

Businesses to be advised to secure chemicals

WASHINGTON (AP)—The federal government will tell 7,000 businesses next week that they are considered high risk-terrorist targets because they house large amounts of chemicals.

The sites - which range from major chemical plants to universities, food processing centers and hospitals - will need to complete a vulnerability assessment so the government can decide how to regulate their security measures in the future.

U.S. intelligence officials say terrorist organizations, including al-Qaida, favor chemical attack methods because of the severe consequences they can inflict.

"I'm trying to complicate these guys' lives," said Bob Stephan, assistant secretary of infrastructure protection at the Homeland Security Department.

Imposing varying security measures at sites across the country not only secures the materials inside the sites, but it creates a more difficult operation for the terrorists, he indicated.

"This is never going to be an impregnable target set, but I want to introduce enough complexity into the mix that al-Qaida's going to go somewhere else," Stephan told reporters Friday.

Earlier this year, 32,000 businesses with large amounts of chemicals had to complete an online survey that the Homeland Security Department used to determine which facilities' security measures should be regulated. The list was pared down to 7,000. These businesses will go through another vulnerability assessment, and the department will place them into four categories, based on the risk they face.

Homeland security inspectors will eventually visit the highest risk facilities each year to make sure they are complying with enhanced security measures. If these sites do not comply, they could face hefty fines and could ultimately be shut down until they meet federal security standards. As the department considers these 7,000 sites, it also will look at physical security; cyber security; insider threat potential; how hazardous a chemical release could be to the nearby communities; how dangerous the chemicals are if they are mixed with water; and whether the chemicals could be easily stolen from the sites and used to kill.

The list of the 7,000 sites will not be publicly released because of security reasons, the department said.

Continental named best N. American airline

HOUSTON—Continental Airlines has been named the "Best Airline in North America" at the 2008 OAG Airline of the Year Awards—the fifth straight year that the airline has received the award.

In addition, Continental was awarded the "Best Airline Finance Deal," a new award category, recognizing the success of the airline's April 2007 financing transaction, which raised $1.1 billion for the purchase of 30 new 737NG aircraft delivering in 2008.

The awards are based on votes by frequent flyers around the world who subscribe to OAG print and electronic travel information products.

Bob Schumacher, Continental's senior director for the United Kingdom and Ireland, accepted the awards on behalf of the airline at the ceremony in London.

Continental Airlines is the world's fifth largest airline. ***(Continental)***

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Venezuela puts nation first in mining

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuela's environment minister said Saturday that the government will put national interests first in the mining sector and forbid mining in a forest reserve that is home to two of the country's largest gold concessions. Minister Yubiri Ortega did not give a direct answer when asked if the government is planning to nationalize the mines. But she said Venezuela is "taking control" to "save and appropriate what is ours." The government will consider underground mining concessions, but negotiations must take into account "what is left for the country," Ortega said. She added that Venezuela will not permit open-pit mines or mining in the biologically diverse Imataca Forest Reserve because they cause environmental degradation and contaminate the country's water supply.

Stocks drop as credit woes continue, oil rises

NEW YORK (AP)—Stocks capped a difficult week with steep losses Friday amid escalating worries about the financial and automotive sectors and a rebound in oil prices. The major indexes fell by more than 1 1/2 percent on the day, and the Dow Jones industrial average gave up more than 200 points to end at its lowest level in three months. The Dow fell 220.40, or 1.83 percent, to 11,842.69. The blue chips haven't closed below 12,000 since March 17, when the market was worried about Bear Stearns Cos. collapsing. Broader stock indicators also dropped. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 24.90, or 1.85 percent, to 1,317.93, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 55.97, or 2.27 percent, to 2,406.09.

Canadian court allows largest ever leveraged buyout

TORONTO (AP)—BCE Inc. on Friday won the right to go ahead with the largest leveraged buyout in history, a US$35 billion deal that the telecommunications company's bondholders fought, saying it would reduce their holdings to junk. Canada's Supreme Court overturned a lower court ruling that the sale of BCE, the parent of telecommunications holding company Bell Canada, to the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan and its minority U.S. partners didn't adequately consider bondholders' interests. The court's rationale for its unanimous decision is to be released later. "We're pleased with the Supreme Court's decision and we're continuing to work to complete an acquisition of BCE," Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan spokeswoman Deborah Allan said.

Nation

Calif. firefighters wrestle with dozens of wildfires

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—Thunderstorms sparked as many as 75 wildfires in a wilderness area in far Northern California on Saturday as officials farther south got close to containing a blaze that destroyed several homes and forced thousands to evacuate.

Storms overnight Friday were responsible for the large number of fires in Shasta-Trinity National Forest, near Redding. Those fires range in size from less than an acre to more than 750 acres.

None immediately threatened homes, said Forest Service spokesman Michael Odle. Teams moved in Saturday on the two largest fires.

South of San Francisco, a fire that burned homes and closed a stretch of highway was 90 percent contained, said officials of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Officials had expected full containment on Saturday, but hot weather and stubborn hot spots kept fire crews busy. Cal Fire now expects the fire to be fully contained on Sunday. So far, it had charred 630 acres, or less than a square mile.

Evacuation orders were lifted Saturday, a day after roughly 2,000 people fled their homes.

About 650 firefighters were working in hot, dry weather to contain the blaze, which destroyed as many as 15 buildings, including several homes, and closed scenic Highway 1 in Santa Cruz County for hours, fire officials said.

Car hits NYC pedestrians for 4th time

NEW YORK (AP)—A car plowed into pedestrians on a New York City sidewalk for the fourth time in two days, hurting four people and raising the toll to nearly two dozen victims from the strange spate of wrecks.

Saturday's accident in Brooklyn's Flatbush neighborhood, which injured two toddlers, came a day after cars veered onto sidewalks at three locations in Manhattan, hitting a total of 18 people. Three were hospitalized in serious condition; 11 others were treated for less serious injuries.

Witnesses to Saturday's accident said the car crashed into two children at play on the sidewalk, where they lay bleeding after being hit.

A 2-year-old boy was hospitalized in critical condition, and a girl of the same age was in stable condition, police said. Two young women, 16 and 19, were in stable condition.

Authorities did not say whether the women and children were related.

Police said that the 16-year-old driver ran from the scene, but that officers caught up with him and arrested him on charges including reckless endangerment, reckless driving and leaving the scene of an accident.

River rises again, along with worries in Mo., Ill.

FOLEY, Mo. (AP)—Amid the battle to hold back the swollen Mississippi River, some towns in northeastern Missouri and Illinois got an unwelcome surprise Saturday as river levels rose higher than projected.

Recent levee breaks north of Canton, not far from the Iowa line, had allowed the river level to drop there and at other towns far north of St. Louis.

Officials knew it would rise again to expected crests during the weekend, but the amount of the increase caught them off guard.

The Mississippi reached 26.3 feet Saturday morning at Canton after dipping below 23 feet two days earlier, and it was expected to crest later in the day at 26.4 feet.

That's still more than a foot lower than the record set during the Great Flood of '93.

However, the new Saturday morning reading was "a full foot higher than we expected it to be," said emergency management spokeswoman Monica Heaton. "The levee's fine, but the river did another unexpected thing last night."

Forecasters said Saturday afternoon that the river would crest several inches higher than expected in Hannibal and at Quincy, Ill., where it was set to crest late in the day more than 2 feet below the '93 flood peak.

"We're confident we can hold that and not have any issues," said Adams County's emergency management chief, John Simon. "It'll be another sigh of relief, but it's not over yet. We're not out of the water yet, no pun intended. We have a while to go."

Hannibal emergency management director John Hark said the river was well above flood stage but still about 3 feet below the record set in 1993. Before a levee break north of Hannibal in Meyer, Ill., allowed some water to drain out of the river last week, Hannibal was expecting a crest at or near the record.

The crest was revised Saturday to 29.1 feet, set to arrive in Mark Twain's hometown sometime Sunday morning.

"We're keeping an eye on it," he said.

Downriver, near St. Louis, the latest federal forecast called for lower crests than predicted a day earlier. That was good news in hard-hit Lincoln County, where five levees had broken in the past three days.

At Foley, more than half of the homes in the town of 200 residents were under water, and townspeople were only beginning to decide whether to go back or move out.

ACROSS THE NATION

Gay couples across Calif. trade weekend vows

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Same-sex couples across California exchanged vows and wedding bands on the first weekend since the state began allowing gays and lesbians to legally marry. The city of West Hollywood, a staunch advocate of marriage rights for gays and lesbians, hosted a daylong marriage marathon Saturday, when about 100 same-sex couples planned to wed in ceremonies officiated by council members and administrators. Accompanied by camera-toting clusters of relatives and friends, couples traded vows under white trellises trimmed with red roses inside curtained cabanas in West Hollywood Park.

Police: Dad leads cops to remains of missing kids

HOUSTON (AP)—The father of two missing children has led investigators to the children's charred remains, police said Saturday. Police found the remains of Randy Sylvester Jr., 7, and his sister Denim Sylvester, 3, packed in a wooden chest and a suitcase and left in a wooded area in southeastern Houston, about 5 miles from their home in suburban Pasadena, said Vance Mitchell, a Pasadena police spokesman. Their father, Randy Sylvester Sr., 27, led searchers to the remains late Friday after a week of misleading statements about where the children were located, Mitchell said.

Opposition mounts to clean air change affecting parks

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Critics fear the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will adopt a rule in the waning days of the Bush administration that will make it easier to build coal-fired power plants near national parks. The proposed change, pending since last June, comes as the utility industry moves into its biggest building boom in coal-fueled power plants in decades. To meet growing electricity needs, more than 20 plants are under construction in 14 states and more than 100 are in various stages of planning.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING
Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0956/0957 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0995

NOTICE OF HEARINGS
PENDING LABOR CASES

Monday, June 23, 2008 First Notice **Monday, June 30, 2008 Second Notice**

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Hearing Office, Department of Labor, Second Floor, Afetna Square Building, San Antonio, on the date and at the time listed below. Your claims will be heard at that time or continued to a date certain. Please bring any documentation necessary to the resolution of your claims or defenses to claims against you. In particular, if you have wage claims or if wage claims are made against you, please bring supporting documentation. If you fail to appear, or fail to bring documentation, your claims or defenses may be dismissed, and an administrative order may be entered against you.
If your case has been resolved through a settlement, or you are a claimant and wish to withdraw your claims, please call Jeffrey Camacho, Chief, Enforcement Section, 236-0960, or come to the Enforcement Office at the Department of Labor.

THIS NOTICE IS POSTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

CASE #	COMPLAINANT	RESPONDENT	HEARING DATE	TIME	CASE #	COMPLAINANT	RESPONDENT	HEARING DATE	TIME
LC 07-018	Alverez, Imelda O.	Concorde Garment MFG	July 11, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Luo, Xiao Yan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-057	Casido, Teodoro L.	L & T Corporation	July 11, 2008	11:00 a.m.	LC 07-018	Malapo, Helen M.	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Chang, Zhenghua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Mao, Bin	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Chen, Jumei	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Mao, Guang Jian	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Chen, Jun	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Miao, Qingwei	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Chen, Ling	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-057	Oria, Juanito R.	L & T Corporation	July 11, 2008	8:30 a.m.
LC 07-007	Chen, Mei Jun	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Qian, Bangwu	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Chen, Taihong	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-057	Ramoran, Richard C.	L & T Corporation	July 11, 2008	8:30 a.m.
LC 07-007	Chen, Yi	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Ren, Zhaotao	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Chen, Yuhao	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-018	Rivera, Agnes M.	Concorde Garment MFG	July 11, 2008	10:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Chen, Zhi Qiang	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Sang, Xiaohong	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Chen, Zhu Juan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Shen, Shuzhen	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Cheng, Jun	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Tang, Fengmin	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Cheng, Xiaomei	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Tang, Zhengguo	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	11:00 a.m.
LC 07-057	Del Carmen, Joseph L.	L & T Corporation	July 11, 2008	8:30 a.m.	LC 07-018	Tenorio, Teresita P.	Concorde Garment MFG	July 11, 2008	10:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Deng, Xing Juan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Baolian	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	11:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Ding, Guole	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Chunmei	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	1:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Ding, Hongling	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Da Ping	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	1:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Dong, Huazhen	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Fang	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	3:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Dong, Jiefeng	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Gui Xiang	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	3:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Dong, Li	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Hua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Dong, Zhaolan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Qiang	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	11:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Gao, Honghong	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Qin	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	11:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Gu, Dongmei	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Shengxia	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Gu, Jianjun	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Tuhua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	11:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Gu, Shui Lan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	3:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Xiaoli	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	1:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Guan, Taizhen	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Xilan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Guo, Qunxing	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Wang, Ximei	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	3:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Han, Cuiping	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	3:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Wei, Yan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	He, Yan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Wu, Chunzhi	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	11:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Hu, Guihua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Wu, Ding Rong	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	1:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Hu, Jun	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Wu, Jiaoqing	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	1:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Hu, Li	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Wu, Zhanmei	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Hu, Yayi	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Xia, Hu	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Huang, Youqun	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Xie, Juzhen	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.
LC 07-018	Ibisate, Lucila B.	Concorde Garment MFG	July 11, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Xu, Donglan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-057	Islam, Md. Aminul	L & T Corporation	July 11, 2008	8:30 a.m.	LC 07-007	Xu, Hua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Jiang, Yuxiang	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Xu, Qinguan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Jin, Wei Feng	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Xu, Qinping	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Jing, Hua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Xue, Jingcheng	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Kong, Defei	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Yang, Chunhua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-057	Laitan, Benito B. Jr.	L & T Corporation	July 11, 2008	8:30 a.m.	LC 07-007	Yang, Youquan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	3:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Li, Guangfeng	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Yao, Hua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	11:00 a.m.
LC 07-328	Li, Hai Bo	LY & Z American Corp.	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Yao, Jianyun	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Li, Julin	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Ye, Liuzhen	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Li, Jun	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Ye, Zhenzhen	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Li, Xianhui	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Yu, Yaying	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Li, Xiaoyan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Yuan, Jinping	Concorde Garment MFG	July 11, 2008	9:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Li, Yuanying	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Zhang, Aihong	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Li, Zhixian	Concorde Garment MFG	July 11, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Zhang, Chang Zhang	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Lia, Xinglan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Zhang, Chunxian	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	2:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Liang, Ying	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Zhang, Guiping	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Liao, Donglian	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Zhang, Guiying	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Liao, Xiaoqing	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Zhang, Hui	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Lin, Ya Hua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Zhang, Longhua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 11, 2008	9:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Ling, Wen Zhong	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	11:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Zhang, Yun	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Liu, Benqiong	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	11:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Zhou, Chunju	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Liu, Qin	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	10:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Zhou, Ming Yue	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Liu, Yiju	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Zhou, Xuhong	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Liu, Zhimin	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	11:00 a.m.	LC 07-007	Zhu, Li Ying	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Lu, Haibo	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Zhu, Qin Jian	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.
LC 07-007	Lu, Hongyan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Zhu, Rongdi	Concorde Garment MFG	July 11, 2008	9:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Lu, Qingquan	Concorde Garment MFG	July 9, 2008	3:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Zhu, Yuhong	Concorde Garment MFG	July 11, 2008	9:00 a.m.
LC 07-007	Lu, Yunhua	Concorde Garment MFG	July 10, 2008	12:00 p.m.	LC 07-007	Zhu, Zhi Hong	Concorde Garment MFG	July 11, 2008	9:00 a.m.

NATION

Battle shaping up over future of US role in Iraq

AP

A U.S. soldier stands guard during a search operation in Maysan province near the border with Iran, 320 kilometers (200 miles) southeast of Baghdad, Iraq on Friday, June 20, 2008.

By ROBERT H. REID
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BAGHDAD (AP)—The decisive battle of the Iraq war is shaping up - not in the streets of Baghdad but in the halls of government where the future of America's role across the region is on the line.

American and Iraqi officials have expressed new resolve to hammer out far-reaching deals that would allow U.S. forces to remain on bases across Iraq once the U.N. mandate expires at year's end.

The stakes in the talks are enormous.

The outcome will shape not just Iraq for years to come - but, more important, America's strategic position all across the oil-rich Persian Gulf at a time when Iran's influence is growing. The U.S. maintains substantial air and naval forces elsewhere in the Gulf but few ground troops except in Iraq.

A pact also would assure Arab allies that Iraq would not fall under domination by Iran, which is pressuring the Iraqis to refuse any deal that keeps U.S. soldiers here.

But critics in the United States fear it will tie the hands of the next president when millions of Americans are anxious to bring troops home. Many Iraqis, in turn, worry the deal will allow American domination of their country for decades.

With so much in the balance, the Iraqi government said Wednesday that both Washington and Baghdad recognize the need to finish the talks by July's end "to avoid any legal vacuum that may arise."

That came only days after it seemed the deal was dead. But Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari said the prospects for an accord had brightened because of new U.S. flexibility after meetings in Washington.

The White House said President Bush and Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki discussed the talks Thursday via secured video teleconference and affirmed their commitment to completing the deal.

Nevertheless, the two sides remain far apart on core issues, including the number of bases where the United States will have a presence, and U.S. demands for immunity from Iraqi law for American soldiers and contractors.

Other obstacles include U.S. authority to detain suspects, fight battles without Iraqi permission and control of the country's airspace.

Iraq's parliament must sign off on the deal by year's end - and approval is by no means certain.

Opposition to the initial U.S. demands brought together rival Sunni, Shiite and Kurdish leaders who all complain the deal would leave real power in American hands.

The oil minister, who is close to the country's powerful Shiite clerical leadership, told the British newspaper The Guardian this week that Iraq will demand the right to veto any U.S. military operation.

But American commanders believe they need such sweeping powers to protect U.S. soldiers in a combat zone.

Publicly, U.S. officials have expressed confidence they can find language that will satisfy the Iraqis on all major issues. But the negotiations are taking place against the backdrop of war and intense power struggles among rival ethnic groups in Iraq - each with its own agenda.

The U.S. operates scores of bases throughout the country, including the sprawling Camp Victory headquarters in Baghdad, Asad air base in western Iraq and the giant air facility at Balad, a 16-square-mile installation about 60 miles north of the capital that houses tens of thousands of American troops, contractors and U.S. government civilians.

It's still unclear how many of the facilities Washington would want to keep.

If all else fails, the two sides could go back to the U.N. Security Council and seek an extension of the mandate allowing troops in Iraq.

But that could prove politically embarrassing—and difficult—in the waning days of the Bush administration or the early days of the new U.S. presidency.

The current standoff has its roots in events last August when leaders of Iraq's rival factions—facing enormous U.S. pressure to resolve their differences—signed a declaration of unity.

It included a statement that Iraq's government wanted a long-term security relationship with the United States apart from U.N. mandates, which Iraq has long wanted to end.

A few months later, Bush and al-Maliki signed a statement of principles to negotiate two agreements - a broad security framework and a second deal spelling out the rules for the U.S. military presence.

Talks began in March but Iraqi officials were outraged over the initial U.S. demands—especially immunity for U.S. soldiers and security contractors.

Asia

Typhoon kills 80 in RP

By JIM GOMEZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Typhoon Fengshen lashed the Philippines for a second day Sunday, leaving at least 80 people dead as it submerged entire communities and capsized a passenger ferry carrying more than 740 passengers and crew.

The death toll included 59 people who drowned in the central province of Iloilo, with another 40 missing, Gov. Neil Tupaz said.

"Almost all the towns are covered by water. It's like an ocean," Tupaz said, adding thousands have been displaced in the province that is home to 1.7 million people.

Villagers found four bodies, children's slippers and life jackets that washed ashore Sunday near the stranded MV *Princess of Stars*. Port captain Nestor Ponteres said the ferry's owner, Sulpicio Lines, had lost radio contact with the ship and the fate of its passengers was unknown.

The dead, including a man and a woman who bound themselves together, were believed to have been on the vessel, which initially ran aground a few miles (kilometers) off central Sibuyan island Saturday, then capsized, said Mayor Nanette Tansingco of San Fernando on Sibuyan island.

The typhoon lashed the central Philippines for about four hours Saturday, setting off landslides and floods, knocking out power and blowing off roofs.

Packing sustained winds of 74 miles (120 kilometers) per hour and gusts of up to 93 mph (150 kph), the typhoon shifted course Sunday to the northwest and battered Manila at dawn, dumping heavy rain on the capital.

Rescue vessels aborted an initial attempt Saturday to get to the 23,824-ton ferry, but efforts resumed in stormy weather Sunday, with one ship approaching the stricken vessel, coast guard chief Vice Admiral Wilfredo Tamayo said.

"A lot of efforts have been done to send off rescue boats, but we really can't get through the very rough weather," Tamayo told The Associated Press.

Tansingco said the bodies were found in three San Fernando villages, adding residents have also found other objects that apparently came from the ferry.

"Many slippers of children were washed ashore the shoreline and found by villagers," Tansingco told DZBB radio.

The ferry—with 626 passengers and 121 crew members on board—was "dead in the water" after its engine failed around noon Saturday, Tamayo said.

In southern Maguindanao province, at least 14 people drowned in flash floods Saturday, including 10 swept away from riverside homes, said provincial administrator Norie Unas. Five others were missing.

A 50-year-old man and his 10-year-old grandson were killed when a landslide buried their hillside shanty in Cotabato city Saturday, Mayor Muslimin Sema said. Authorities recovered the body of a farmer, one of three people reported missing in neighboring Cotabato province.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo directed the defense and local government departments to stand by for relief and rescue missions before she left for the United States late Saturday.

Officials said neck-deep flood waters had risen further with a high tide, forcing the evacuation of 5,000 people in Sultan Kudarat township in southern Shariff Kabunsuan province, near Cotabato city.

Officials ordered the evacuation of more than 117,000 people from areas prone to floods and landslides in central Albay province. But many returned home by midday Saturday after the typhoon missed the area.

AP

Residents wade through a flooded street in Manila following heavy rains brought about by typhoon Fengshen on Sunday June 22, 2008 in Manila.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Thai PM will resign if Parliament votes him out

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP)—Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej on Sunday agreed to resign if he lost a no-confidence vote in Parliament, but he remained defiant in the face of anti-government protesters who have surrounded his office, vowing to oust him. Thousands of demonstrators, led by the People's Alliance for Democracy movement, claim Samak's government is a proxy for former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who was ousted in a 2006 coup. "I will not bow to your pressure. I will pull out only if I am defeated by a vote in Parliament," Samak told the protesters in a national address Sunday.

Bombs kill 5 foreign troops in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Roadside bombs killed five foreign troops and five government soldiers Saturday, part of a surge of violence that has made Afghanistan's battlefields deadlier for foreign forces than those in Iraq. The U.S. administration already has highlighted the Iraq-Afghan comparison to lobby its NATO allies—with limited success—to commit more forces to Afghanistan for a conflict likely to test the West's stomach for a long, grinding war. Last year, more than 8,000 people were killed in insurgency-related attacks—the most since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion—and violence has claimed more than 1,700 lives so far this year.

World

'Mideast could burn if Iran attacked'

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—The U.N. nuclear watchdog chief warned in comments aired Saturday that any military strike on Iran could turn the Mideast into a "ball of fire" and lead the country to a more aggressive stance on its controversial nuclear program.

The comments by Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, came in an interview with an Arab television station aired a day after U.S. officials said they believed recent large Israeli military exercises may have been meant to show Israel's ability to hit Iran's nuclear sites.

"In my opinion, a military strike will be the worst ... it will turn the Middle East to a ball of fire," ElBaradei said on Al-Arabiya television. It also could prompt Iran to press even harder to seek a nuclear program, and force him to resign, he said.

Iran on Saturday also criticized the Israeli exercises. The official IRNA news agency quoted a government spokesman as saying that the exercises demonstrate Israel "jeopardizes global peace and security."

Israel sent warplanes and other aircraft on a major exercise in the eastern Mediterranean earlier this month, U.S. military officials said Friday. Israel's military refused to confirm or deny that the maneuvers were practice for a strike in Iran, saying only that it regularly trains for various missions to counter threats to the country.

But the exercise the first week of June may have been meant as a show of force as well as a practice on skills needed to execute a long-range strike mission, one U.S. official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak on the record on the matter.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert has said he prefers that Iran's nuclear ambitions be halted by diplomatic means, but has pointedly declined to rule out military action.

The U.S. says it is seeking a diplomatic resolution to the threat the West sees from Iran's nuclear program, although U.S. officials also have refused to take the threat of military action off the table.

Mugabe: Opposition lies about violence

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)—President Robert Mugabe accused the opposition of falsely claiming that their supporters were being beaten up ahead of next week's presidential runoff, state-run media reported Saturday.

"They say this so that they can later say the elections were not free and fair. Which is a damn lie," the state Herald newspaper quoted Mugabe as saying at a campaign rally Friday in the western city of Bulawayo.

Mugabe faces opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai in the June 27 runoff after Tsvangirai won the first round but not by an outright majority.

On Friday, Tsvangirai said that a "wave of brutality" has swept Zimbabwe since the runoff was called and implored Zimbabweans not to lose hope that they can change their country. His message was distributed by e-mail, one of the few ways he has of reaching voters.

The U.S. Embassy has released amateur video footage shot from a car window of a group of men running in terror from a small gang of militants.

Witnesses said gangs of militants wearing bandannas and scarves of Mugabe's party and carrying sticks and clubs roamed the township of Chitungwiza and other Harare townships Saturday after manning makeshift roadblocks overnight.

Residents were advised to stay indoors and avoid traveling by road at night. Militants also set up camps in suburban grassland and frog-marched residents to political meetings, the witnesses said.

Bosnian Serb police chief is turned over to UN court

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP)—Serb authorities Saturday turned over an ex-Bosnian Serb police chief to the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal in the Netherlands.

Stojan Zupljanin was arrested in the town of Pancevo last week after nine years on the run. A Belgrade court on Friday rejected his appeal against extradition.

"Stojan upljanin was transferred today into the tribunal's custody, after evading justice for more than eight years," the court in The Hague, Netherlands, confirmed. Details of the transfer routinely are not disclosed.

No immediate date was announced for his initial appearance before a judge, when he will be asked to enter a plea. Suspects normally are summoned to court within a few days of arriving at the U.N. detention center outside The Hague.

Serbia has been under pressure from the European Union to turn over suspects to the international tribunal, which has charged Zupljanin with war crimes for allegedly overseeing Serb-run prison camps where thousands of Muslims and Croats were killed during the 1992-95 war in Bosnia.

The EU has stressed that all the suspects sought by the tribunal must be arrested and extradited if Belgrade wants to move closer to the 27-nation bloc.

Zupljanin is the 43rd Serb suspect extradited to the tribunal. The others include former President Slobodan Milosevic, who was ousted in 2000 and died in 2006 while on trial on war crimes charges.

Three other suspects remain at large. They are former Bosnian Serb political leader Radovan Karadzic, his military commander Gen. Ratko Mladic, and Goran Hadzic, a Croatian Serb leader.

Karadzic and Mladic are wanted on genocide charges for allegedly organizing the 1995 massacre of 8,000 Muslims in Srebrenica and other atrocities of the Bosnian war.

AP

People dance as they celebrate the summer solstice shortly after 04.58, at the Stonehenge monument, England, early Saturday June 21, 2008.

Thousands revel at Stonehenge

STONEHENGE, England (AP)—The summer solstice drew thousands of revelers to Stonehenge to watch the sun rise over the ancient monument Saturday for the first time in the new season.

Beating drums and wearing rainbow cloaks, the celebrants walked through light rain Friday to talk, dance and meditate as they awaited the start of the event.

Ray Smith, 60, of Hengistbury in southern England, came wearing blue face paint and a multicolored skirt.

"I think it's a place of our ancestors, its a shrine to our ancestors, and I think it's very important to celebrate each season," he said.

Zoe Neale, 48, cheerfully admitted her visit to Stonehenge "is part of my mid-life crisis." She left her West London office amid gentle teasing from her colleagues Friday afternoon to see a very English tradition.

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 2300/02 fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: procurement@nmcnet.edu, Website: www.nmcnet.edu

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP 08-016
NMC Network Infrastructure Upgrades

The Northern Marianas College Bookstore is soliciting competitive sealed proposals upgrading of existing computer network infrastructure. Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Monday thru Friday between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Proposal Packages are due no later than 4:00 p.m., June 24th, 2008, Saipan time at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950.

In accordance with CNMI Public Law 15-95 and 15-118, "Local Preference" does not apply and may not be submitted for this procurement. This procurement is wholly or partially funded from federal sources.

For Proposers located outside of the CNMI: You may request a copy of the RFP via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Duane R.T. Sablan (duanes@nmcnet.edu), or call NMC Procurement Office at (670) 234-5498 extensions 2300/01/02.

All Proposers are hereby notified that the Northern Marianas College will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement; all individuals, and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals for any reason and waive any defect in said proposals, or cancel in part or its entirety this RFP, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC and will not be returned.

/s/ Duane R.T. Sablan
Acting, NMC Procurement Officer

/s/ Adrian Atalig
Director, Information Technology

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

Request for Proposal
RFP 08-017

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the **Renovation of Oleai Elementary School's Basketball Court.** Detailed information on the Scope of Work, for a non-refundable fee of $ 4.00, is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 08-017" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than July 1, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. Responsibility determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 08-017, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination", containing one (1) original and one (1) copy). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Carl Dela Cruz, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: **delacruzc@pss.cnmi.mp.**

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid business license.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ Dr. David M. Borja, D.B.A.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Carl F. Dela Cruz
Acting P & S Officer

Health & Fitness

Sit back and enjoy the ride

By JANET CROMLEY
(C) 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Fifty-year-old Jonathan Dietch, a tax accountant with MacGyver-like tendencies, is taking me for a ride on a sweet machine, a candy-blue Greenspeed, GTT 5F recumbent, hand-built in Australia, with a custom Da Vinci drive train.

I'm along for the ride to find out if recumbents are finally positioned for the growth spurt that enthusiasts—iconoclasts all—have stubbornly predicted, decade after decade. A demographic shift might at last just make that happen. Turns out that riding low in a reclined position takes the pressure off aging backs, necks and wrists—a perfect prescription for aging boomers, who are also more likely than most to have the cash to buy these bikes.

Our ride is feeling very tranquil and Norman Rockwell-ish until a trash truck comes roaring alongside, reminding us that with one ill-considered move we could be smashed like cicadas on the asphalt.

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Recumbent enthusiast Jonathan Dietch rides under the Queensway Bay Bridge in Long Beach, Calif. The cycle's low, reclined profile helps ease back pressure.

Indeed, some believe that recumbents' chief attraction—riding low, in a reclined position—also makes them harder for motorists to see and thus unsafe. Recumbent enthusiasts say that, to the contrary, cars and trucks notice recumbents because of their novelty and give them a wide berth to compensate. "Not like a road bike," Dietch says. "When I'm on a road bike, I'm invisible. It's like I don't exist."

Scenic Route

We pick up the path and head south, setting a course for the Pacific Ocean. As Dietch turns the bike onto the path, the river, lined in concrete, sidles up next to us on the right, and rows of homes flash by on the left.

Three miles into the ride, my legs are feeling a light burn, but I'm comfortable and relaxed. There's none of the familiar tension in the neck that comes with riding a regular bicycle. We pass a team of cyclists stopped by the side of the path. They wave and appear to appraise our gear as we sail by.

The bike has 36 speeds and rides like butter. It should, with a starting price of $8,000. Recumbents can start at about $600, but most buyers will spend more than $1,000, says Dana Lieberman, owner of Bent Up Cycles in Los Angeles, which has lent us this bike for the day. The store is one of the few bicycle shops in L.A. County dealing exclusively in recumbents.

In a League of Its Own

Recumbents are a class of bicycle so quirky that sports research firms don't generally track them, says Megan Tompkins, editor of Bicycle Retailer and Industry News, a business-to-business publication for the bicycle industry.

Maybe 1 percent of bicycles sold are recumbents, she estimates. But anecdotally, sales are notching upward.

"Business has been growing steadily over the last 10 years, and it's starting to pick up," says Randy Schlitter, founder of Kansas-based Rans, a major seller of recumbents: It sold about 5,000 cycles last year, according to Schlitter, who started building recumbents in his sister's basement in 1973.

Rans bikes range from about $1,000 to $7,000—a hefty price tag. But that hasn't stopped brisk sales. Recumbent riders are willing to shell out cash for quality, Schlitter says.

Most customers for recumbents are baby boomers, says Lieberman of Bent Up Cycles. "They're getting older, they've kept themselves in good shape, economically they've done well, and their regular standard bicycle isn't cutting it for them anymore." They start looking at recumbents when riding their standard bike begins to cause discomfort—typically in the back, neck, shoulder, groin, hands and wrists.

Fueling the interest: Bikes have gotten lighter in the last 10 years, and there are many more choices available.

Recumbent bicycle buyer's guide

By JANET CROMLEY
(C) 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Itching to buy a recumbent? Here are some pointers:

DO YOUR RESEARCH

"The Recumbent Bicycle" by Gunnar Fehlau, from Out Your Backdoor Press, third edition, 2006, provides a comprehensive overview of recumbents.

LOOK AND LEARN

Go to a bike shop that has several models and try them out. Give yourself several hours, possibly over several weekends, to test them.

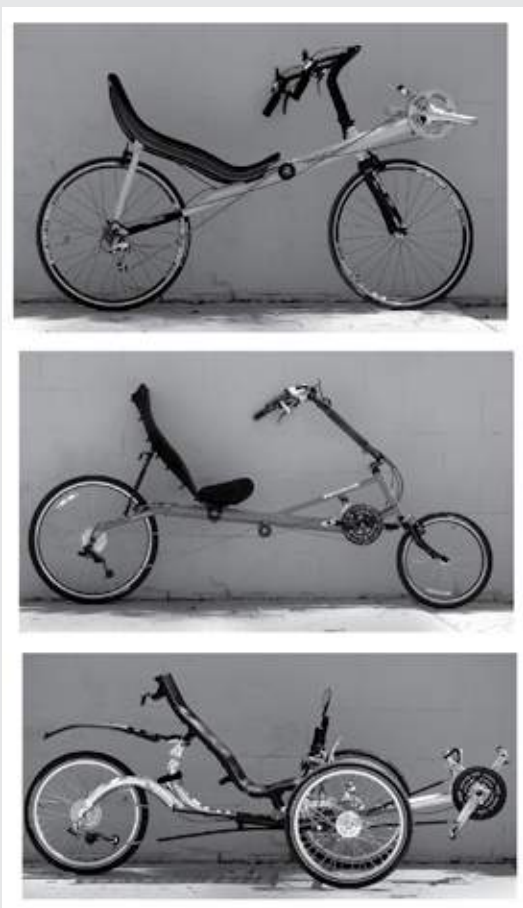
CONSIDER YOUR NEEDS

Do you dream of touring across the country, riding with a local cycling club or poking around the neighborhood with your kids? This will help determine the type of recumbent that will work best for you.

■ Long wheelbase recumbents are stretched out, with the front wheel positioned in front of the pedals. These bikes are generally known for stability and comfort. They make excellent touring bikes and provide a good view of the road but tend to weigh a little more than other styles and have a larger turning radius.

■ The compact long (a.k.a. medium) wheelbase recumbents are shorter than the long wheelbase recumbents and have smaller wheels, but the front wheel is still out in front of the cranks. With this style, riders get some of the advantages of the long wheelbase without feeling as if they're riding a boat. These bikes are more maneuverable but less stable than the long wheelbase bike and look more like a regular bike.

■ Short wheelbase recumbents have the pedals in front of the front wheel and because of the shorter length, are generally very sporty and nimble. They are easier to store and transport and tend to be lighter. But they are less stable at high speed and harder to ride. The feet are up high, which can take time to get used to.



LOS ANGELES TIMES

The short wheelbase on the Carbent HPV Sea Dragon, top, makes for a speedier, more agile ride while the long wheelbase on the Bacchetta Bellandare, center, is ideal for touring trips. If you're looking for extra stability, try a sporty three-wheeler like the Trice T, bottom.

CHECK OUT THE MATERIALS

Most recumbents are made of chromoly steel, aluminum or—at the high end—titanium and carbon fiber. Chromoly or aluminum will work fine for most riders. Chromoly provides a softer ride and is very strong; aluminum is lighter.

GET THE PROPER FIT

This will determine how comfortable the bike is to ride. Make sure your arms and legs are comfortable when you're in pedaling position. As a rule, your knees should have a little bend when you're seated, even when your legs are at maximum extension. Spend time sitting on the bike. Seats vary and aren't interchangeable.

WEIGH THE COST AND QUALITY

Bikes purchased from local dealers generally start at $600 but can go over $10,000 for a high-end tandem, says Dana Lieberman, owner of Bent Up Cycles Los Angeles. Higher prices buy better-quality materials, better parts and finish, superior workmanship and lighter weight, he says.

When choosing, "you've got to make sure you get the bike that's going to do what you want it to do, that's comfortable when you sit on it, and that's in the right price range," adds Jim Wronski, owner of People Movers in Orange, Calif.

CHECK OUT THE TRIKES

These sporty three-wheelers are selling briskly at local dealers. The extra wheel, which is placed either in the front ("tadpole" style) or the back ("delta" style), provides extra stability. And they're a lot of fun.

FROM START TO FITNESS

Maintenance phase is no time to relax

By ANDREA RENEE WYATT, M.S.S., C.S.C.S.
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: After working so hard to reach my weight goal, I would like to change my workouts from five days a week to three days a week. It took me six months to reach my goal, and I am getting a little bored and now would like to change my workouts to a maintenance routine. Is this possible?

A: The maintenance phase of exercise is a place many people strive to reach. If only they can achieve their goals, then maybe they can limit the amount of exercise they do and still maintain their level of fitness—or not work out at as high an intensity and remain at their goal weight, body fat or fitness level. Before you consider limiting your exercise, look at what it required for you to meet your goals.

Exercising five days a week can be a great commitment of time and energy. When you have a goal, it seems logical to spend as much time as possible working toward it. It is important to remember, though, that you will have to work just as hard to maintain it. This might not mean working out five days a week, but it might entail continuing to modify your workouts.

Change up your workouts. If working out five days a week is not possible anymore, then make the most of three days, but change from your normal routine. The cardiovascular routine that helped you reach your goal is great for now, but over time your body will adjust to the challenge that is needed to complete this exercise and will not have to work as hard to complete it. This can result in lower calorie expenditure, which in turn will change the number of calories you burn each workout and affect your ability to maintain the fitness goal you reached.

If your body was burning 325 calories on the treadmill each workout and now is burning only 300 calories, you will begin to see changes to your results because your body is no longer burning those 25 additional calories each workout. Over time, if you maintain the same nutrition habits and do not make up the calorie difference in other activities, you will begin to see your body change.

To avoid burning out or getting bored, try new activities. Think outside the box of your normal routine and add other workouts that are fun and exciting and allow your body to maintain the intensity you achieved while reaching your goal. Your "maintenance phase" will consist of new exercises, but not the elimination of exercise.

Life & Style

NYC getting 'Waterfalls' off shore of Manhattan

NEW YORK (AP)—If they pay attention to it at all, many people view the water off Manhattan's East Side as a flat, even boring expanse stretching under a series of bridges.

Not this summer.

When the spigots are turned on this Thursday, four mammoth waterfalls will spring into existence, freestanding cataracts roaring down into the East River and New York Harbor in a multimillion-dollar engineering feat designed by Danish artist Olafur Eliasson.

"Here in New York, water is everywhere. We take the water for granted," Eliasson said in an interview. "I want to suggest - now, it's not about the land, now it's about what's between the land."

"The New York City Waterfalls" is the city's largest public art project since 2005, when artists Christo and his wife, Jeanne-Claude, adorned 23 miles of Central Park's paths with thousands of saffron drapes. The artificial cascades will be up through Oct. 13.

Eliasson, 41, creates indoor weather systems that incorporate elements like temperature, moisture, aroma and light. He's best known for his 2003 tour de force, "The Weather Project," which drew about 2 million people to London's Tate Modern to see a glowing sun "rise" in a gallery—an effect he created by using a mist machine, mirrors and hundreds of light bulbs.

For this project, since there are no cliffs for water to pour over, metal scaffolds provide the framework for each waterfall. A system of pumps carries water up to a trough, where it will be released in a frothy cascade - about 35,000 gallons every minute for all four falls.

The falls will be turned on every day from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. and illuminated after sunset.

They will roar off Governors Island in the harbor and into the East River at the Brooklyn base of the Brooklyn Bridge, Pier 35 near the Manhattan Bridge and off the Brooklyn Promenade. The highest will stand 120 feet tall, or almost the height of the Statue of Liberty, minus its pedestal.

They will be visible from the Brooklyn and Manhattan waterfronts and from the pedestrian and bike lanes on the Brooklyn Bridge.

"My work is ... about the relationship between the waterfalls, the journey around this part of town and the spectator," Eliasson said. "I want people to see something which is personal. I want them to see themselves, essentially. I'm not offended when people say 'This is not art.'"

"Waterfalls," which overlaps with the last days of a retrospective of Eliasson's work at New York's Museum of Modern Art, is expected to generate at least $55 million in economic activity for the city.

"The project promises to make a big splash in our local economy by attracting thousands of sightseers to town, who will then spend money in our restaurants, hotels and stores," Mayor Michael Bloomberg said.

Hotels are advertising special packages and tourist agencies are offering bicycle and boat excursions.

More than 5 million people saw "Gates," including about 1.5 million out-of-town visitors, pumping about $254 million into the economy.

The $15.5 million cost of "Waterfalls" was raised by the Public Art Fund, a private not-for-profit organization. Individuals, foundations and corporations—including Bloomberg's own media company, Bloomberg LP—donated $13.5 million, and a state agency picked up the rest of the tab.

It's not the first time Eliasson has experimented with water. In his 1993 "Beauty," he produced a rainbow in a Danish gallery by projecting light across a fine mist of water. And for a work called "Green River" in 2000, he poured nontoxic green dye into a river in Stockholm.

Children were included in the planning plans for "Waterfalls." The Public Art Fund collaborated with the city's Department of Education to assemble study guides for teachers taking their classes to see the displays.

AP

In this artist rendering provided by The Public Art Fund/Olafur Eliasson, "The New York City Waterfalls" is shown.

5th & 10th Death Anniversary

We, the family of the late

Jose D. Cruz & Virginia B. Cruz

(June 6, 1920-August 20, 2003/June 16, 1924-July 2, 1998)

would like to invite our family and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the 5th anniversary of our father and the 10th anniversary of our mother of their passage unto eternal life.

Daily mass will be celebrated at 6:00 am at Kristo Rai Church in Garapan from Tuesday, June 24 to Wednesday, July 2, 2008.

Your presence and prayers will be greatly appreciated

Thank you,
Si Yuus Maase,
Olomwaay

The Family

The passing of my husband of 55 years has made a turn in my life, my grandchildren and spouses, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. However, the love that we shared these many years have also been richly blessed with true friends, understanding and caring brothers and sisters, children and in-laws, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, cousins, neighbors, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews and people in the health-care professions.

I am forever grateful for the monumental love poured over us during the many years past, the enthusiasm of the Pacific Medical Center's. CHC's doctors, nurses, surgeons, medical referral staff as well as the Asia Medical Center in Manila, to assist my husband during his illness.

When I saw the many faces during the weeks of mourning and on the burial day, heard the daily words of love and comfort over the phone on in person, smelled and tasted the daily food prepared for us and those who joined us, felt the warm hugs and kisses and received various support from our immediate and extended families, I was truly grateful.

on behalf of our children and their families, I wholeheartedly give my sincere gratitude to you all. I am forever grateful for the love that shone through your various support. May our Lord continue to bless us.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Indeed, *until death' did we part.*

Gregorio Muna Quitugua

Demand for older models grows

By MONICA CORCORAN
(C) 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Until recently, a fashion model and a carton of skim milk had a lot in common—not enough fat and a short shelf life. The average model's career typically expired at the age of 25. And, really, did anyone cry over such gorgeous spoiled milk?

But a funny thing happened on the way to the model retirement home. Laugh lines became commodities.

"The market for older models has exploded," says Ginni Conquest, co-director of the sophisticated women's division at Wilhelmina Models in New York. (Models who are 25 and older are often referred to as "classic" or "sophisticated.") "It's our fastest-growing area, and it's a first for the industry."

Companies didn't suddenly become smitten with stretch marks. The trend is driven by the $2 trillion spending power of baby boomers—born between 1946 and 1964—who make up 26 percent of the population. After all, what middle-aged woman wants to buy moisturizer from a model who's too young to order a martini?

Or a cashmere cardigan from a coed? In September, J.Crew will introduce an online section within its Web catalog that features 58-year-old Los Angeles model Pia Gronning. The sundresses will be the same, but the styling will be more age-appropriate and sophisticated.

"We kept hearing women say, 'I'm not 25. I can't wear your clothes,'" says the preppy retailer's creative director, Jenna Lyons. "We did it for the women who wanted to see someone they relate to."

J.Crew's mature model, a Danish stunner with a 27-inch waist, returned to modeling full time four years ago with L.A. Models as her booking agency. She had been working as a successful interior designer, collaborating with Julia Louis-Dreyfus and other notables.

"I was seeing girls that I used to work with, and so I got back into it," says Gronning, who was discovered by Eileen Ford in 1974. "I am much more relaxed about it now, and I am doing amazingly well."

Using models with some existential mileage makes sense for a few reasons. Baby boomers and thirtysomething Gen Xers see the best physical examples of their peers and glean hope that they, too, can age as well. They also covet the good life experiences that often come with good looks.

"The aspiration in these ads has shifted to having a full, rich life. Open up any Vogue and you'll see models over 35," says John Caplan, president of Ford Models. "In the Rolex ad, you have Carmen Dell'Orefice, and she's in her 70s."

Of course, it helps to have a fulfilled life and exquisite bone structure too. This fall, you won't be able to flip a dozen ad pages in a fashion magazine without glimpsing a 35-plus supermodel. Linda Evangelista, 42, pouts for Prada, while 38-year-old Claudia Schiffer smirks for Chanel and Ferragamo. Christy Turlington, 39, models for Escada. Naomi Campbell, 38, just replaced the 34-year-old Kate Moss as the face of Yves Saint Laurent's fall print ads.

Could America's next top model be addicted to multivitamins? TV Land sure hopes so. Earlier this month, the cable network—along with Wilhelmina Models as a partner—debuted "She's Got the Look," a search for a 35-plus supermodel. Host Kim Alexis, 47, who graced 500 magazine covers in the '80s, plays the ax model with the not-so-catchy dismissal: "You're off the board."

"The expression 'well-preserved' has become a compliment," Alexis says. "And unlike the 20-year-old girls on 'America's Next Top Model,' these women are more well-rounded and confident."

Perhaps. But that doesn't mean that they don't bicker like hungry chinchillas and bemoan their thighs and midriffs. Still, Keith Cox, TV Land exec and the show's creator, thinks the winner will have a better shot at landing campaigns than a dewy twentysomething model: "It's a different market, and it's less competitive," he says.

Still, this trend that appears to be one giant leap for modelkind doesn't apply to the runway—which is still strictly for kittens.

"If I submitted a 45-year-old model for a runway show, the designer would laugh at me," says Crista Klayman, director of runway at L.A. Models. "They still want the 18-year-old."

In other words, got milk?

Carmen Dell'Orefice, who's in her 70s, appears in a Rolex ad in the July issue of Vanity Fair.
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Poison sues label over royalties

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Members of Poison say their record label has consistently underpaid them royalties throughout their career, according to a lawsuit filed Wednesday.

The lawsuit against Capitol Records and EMI Music Marketing claims the companies breached contracts with the band by improperly categorizing certain record sales and miscalculating everything from producer royalties to foreign taxes.

A representative for Capitol and EMI did not immediately return a phone message seeking comment Thursday.

The group claims it tried to audit the band's records kept by Capitol, but the firm didn't fully cooperate. The band stated in its lawsuit that it cannot determine how much money it is owed and asked a judge to order Capitol Records to allow a full accounting review of the band's records.

The glam-rock band's popularity peaked in the late 1980s and early 1990s, recording hits such as "Every Rose Has Its Thorn" and "Talk Dirty to Me."

AP
In this Oct. 27, 2007 file photo, guitarist C. C. DeVille, left, and Bret Michaels of the rock group Poison perform at the Guitar Hero III "Legends of Rock" launch party in Los Angeles.

'Gladiators' stars' twins born to grandma, 52

GOODRICH, Mich. (AP)—A 52-year-old Michigan woman gave birth to her own twin grandchildren after serving as a surrogate mother for her daughter and son-in-law, contestants on NBC's "American Gladiators."

Crystal Sirignano delivered the babies, a boy and a girl, Wednesday at an Arizona hospital, the family said.

"I just feel so blessed and fortunate. It's the best experience of my life," said Sirignano, mother of Kendra Sirignano and mother-in-law to Aaron Simpson.

The healthy babies were delivered by Caesarean section; Domenic weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces, and his sister, Mia, weighed 5 pounds, 4 ounces.

Sirignano offered to become a surrogate after her daughter, Kendra, went through several failed infertility treatments and surgeries.

"My mom did amazing," said Kendra Sirignano.

Crystal Sirignano, the owner of a fitness center, had to stop working out after she started carrying the twins. Despite being a vegetarian, she started eating meat. In October, she moved to Arizona to live near her daughter.

"I don't regret one second, even the times when I didn't feel good," Crystal Sirignano said. "None of that was as bad as watching what my daughter went through."

Kendra Sirignano, 30, a mental health therapist, and her husband, a 33-year-old wrestling coach, also have a 15-year-old daughter, Claire, whom they adopted three years ago.

Ramsey Lewis to compose work on Lincoln

HIGHLAND PARK, Ill. (AP)—Add a musical composition to all the tributes at next year's 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth.

Ramsey Lewis has been commissioned to compose a new work inspired by Lincoln's life. It's being commissioned by the Ravinia Festival, a musical festival north of Chicago. Ravinia has already asked choreographer Bill T. Jones to create a dance theater work as part of the seasonlong celebration of Lincoln.

In announcing the jazz pianist's new untitled work, Ravinia said it will present programs focusing on Lincoln's life and musicians of his day.

AP
In this Jan. 13, 2006 file photo, Ramsey Lewis is shown at the NEA Jazz Awards in New York.

The 73-year-old Lewis, Ravinia's artistic director for jazz, said he was pleased that the Lincoln celebration will feature the works of two black people—Jones and himself.

"I think it's extraordinary that in this year when an African-American has a viable shot at the White House that Ravinia would bookend its Lincoln celebration with the works from the black perspective," he said in a statement.

Lewis also said it is appropriate that Lincoln's story should be told through the "purely American music" of jazz.

Naomi sorry but still mad at airline

LONDON (AP)—Model Naomi Campbell says she is sorry she assaulted two police officers during a dispute about lost luggage aboard a British Airways plane. But she has refused to apologize to the airline, accusing it of racism.

British Airways strongly denied the charge.

Campbell, 38, was sentenced Friday to 200 hours of community service and fined 2,300 pounds ($4,600) after she pleaded guilty to kicking, spitting and swearing at the officers aboard a plane at Heathrow Airport in April.

In an interview with Sky News broadcast Saturday, Campbell said she regretted her behavior and said "I apologize profusely" to the police.

"As for British Airways, I don't apologize," she said.

Campbell accused British Airways staff of having racist attitudes.

"I was called a racial name on that flight," Campbell said, adding that her violent behavior "was part of my reaction." She did not say who had called her the name, but said it was not a passenger.

AP

British model Naomi Campbell wears a creation by Dolce & Gabbana, as part of their men's spring/summer 2009 fashion collection, at Milan fashion week, Milan, Italy, Saturday, June 21, 2008.

In a statement, British Airways said it "does not accept any allegations of racism."

"We are proud of our diversity. We fly to 90 different countries around the world and employ a multi-nationality work force," the airline said. "We have strict policies concerning dignity at work and have long-standing training programs on diversity and inclusion."

Campbell has a history of assaulting assistants and employees.

Last year, she was sentenced to a week of community service in New York City after admitting "reckless assault" for throwing a mobile phone at her housekeeper.

In 2000, she pleaded guilty in Toronto to an assault charge for beating an assistant while making a film in Canada.

Anna Nicole ex snaps up lingerie

LAS VEGAS (AP)—They're not traditional family heirlooms, but Larry Birkhead's is not a traditional family.

Anna Nicole Smith's former boyfriend spent nearly $3,000 at a celebrity auction Saturday scooping up lingerie once worn in a Playboy shoot by the late playmate.

Birkhead said he is trying to make sure his 1-year-old daughter, Dannielynn, has something to remember her mother by.

"I have a lot of history I have to put together that she doesn't really know about," Birkhead told The Associated Press. "Playboy was such a big part of Anna's career."

Birkhead bought a pink bustier for $1,800 and a white negligee for $1,000 at the auction, run by Julien's Auctions and held at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino on the Las Vegas Strip.

He was awarded custody of Danielynn after Smith died from an overdose of prescription drugs in February 2007. She was 39.

Birkhead said he hoped the items would help his daughter learn her mother's life story - when she's old enough.

"You know, it's not something I can show today, but something down the road," Birkhead said. "It's not going to be in any bedtime stories anytime soon."

This Tuesday, June 19, 2007 file photo shows Larry Birkhead, former boyfriend of the late Anna Nicole Smith and father of her daughter, after a probate hearing in Los Angeles.

AP

Rare Monroe footage fetches $60K at auction

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Candid footage of Marilyn Monroe on the set of her last completed film brought in $60,000 at an auction of movie memorabilia Saturday.

The two reels of silent, 8-millimeter color film shot on the set of "The Misfits" had been expected to draw starting bids of between $10,000 and $20,000.

The auction also included the original disco ball from "Saturday Night Fever" and an original script of "The Godfather" signed by Marlon Brando. The sale was held by Julien's Auctions at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino.

The 47-minute film, "On the Set with 'The Misfits,'" was shot by film extra Stanley Floyd Kilarr. It features candid moments with Monroe and co-star Clark Gable, as well as Montgomery Clift, Thelma Ritter and director John Huston.

The film shows actors preparing for scenes, chatting with crew members and others on the set, and relaxing between takes.

"The Misfits" was the last completed film for both Monroe and Gable.

Gable had a fourth heart attack just after filming was finished and died Nov. 16, 1960, about two months before the movie's U.S. release. Monroe died Aug. 5, 1962.

Cathy and Rod McCormick, of Sparks, Nev., obtained the film canister from her father, Frank Hasy, Kilarr's uncle.

Items sold early Saturday included a suit worn by Elvis Presley in the film "Viva Las Vegas," which drew a bid of $36,325. Alfred Hitchcock's driver's license sold for $8,000, and an original "King Kong" French film poster sold for $40,625, according to the auction officials.

Anna Nicole Smith's former boyfriend Larry Birkhead attended the auction and spent nearly $3,000 on lingerie once worn by the late Playboy playmate. Birkhead said he was picking up mementos for the couple's 1-year-old daughter, Dannielynn.

This Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2008 file photo shows Woody Harrelson, as he appears on the NBC "Today" program in New York's Rockefeller Plaza.

AP

Paparazzo sues Woody Harrelson

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- Woody Harrelson has been sued for $2.5 million by a paparazzo who accused the actor of assaulting him and breaking his video camera two years ago.

According to a lawsuit filed Friday in Los Angeles Superior Court, Josh Levine was filming Harrelson in Hollywood late one night in June 2006. He alleges the Academy Award-nominated actor choked him, broke his video camera and ordered his bodyguard to attack him.

Levine's suit says he still has mental, physical and emotional pain from the encounter. He is also suing the unidentified bodyguard.

Harrelson's publicist could not immediately be reached for comment.

Relief is daughter's response to demanding mother's death

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My mother was abusive. When I was 13, she thought it was "cute" to set me up on a date with a 21-year-old Marine on leave. When I was 15, she told me that if she had known she could get an abortion in the '60s, I wouldn't be here. You get the picture.

Although she had no time for me when I was growing up, after her husband died she suddenly became clingy. She'd call me at work at 8 a.m. demanding that I drive 20 miles on my lunch break to bring her a pizza. (Due to obesity and ill health, she was pretty much housebound.)

She spent the last 18 months of her life in a rest home. But her demands became worse. There were frantic phone calls at 2 a.m. to come sit with her because she was "lonely." When I'd rush over, I'd find her sleeping. She called me four or five times during the day, and even more often in the evening.

I gritted my teeth and performed like the good daughter I thought I was. It was infuriating to hear the doctors and nurses say what a loving mother she was, how proud of me she was, blah, blah ...

Her death was a relief. I still run into people who ask about her, and when I tell them she's gone, they ask how I'm holding up. How do I tell them I'm fine? I haven't grieved at all since her death a year ago, nor do I feel sad. The only thing I feel sad about is the fact that I don't feel sad! I'm not an unfeeling person. Your thoughts?

FEELING GUILTY IN SANTA ROSA, CALIF.

DEAR FEELING GUILTY: Of course your mother's passing was a relief. How could it not be? When people ask how you're holding up, you don't have to air the dirty laundry. Tell them you are managing, and that being without your mother is an "adjustment." (It's the truth.) As to your not having cried over her demise, it may be because you know she's in a better place, and you survived in spite of her -- so stop feeling guilty.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have a disease. It's called "plan-itis." I love planning card games, pool parties, Halloween parties, etc. I plan parties for our friends and family to attend, or adult parties to get together without the kids.

I am married with two children and work full-time. I love to throw get-togethers for any occasion. If you want to be married in one week, I can plan it and pull it off for you. Do you think there is something wrong with me? -- "PARTY" GIRL IN OHIO

DEAR "PARTY" GIRL: I sure don't! Your "disease" would be more accurately defined as a "talent." People have turned that talent into successful party-planning businesses. So why not turn what you're already doing -- and already good at -- into a side business? You could be very successful at it.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Can you please tell me what kind of tree is usually planted in honor of someone's death? The anniversary of my father's death is approaching, and I would like to honor him with a tree.

REMEMBERING HIM

DEAR REMEMBERING: Where do you plan to plant this tree? If it's the cemetery where your father is buried, you should ask if it's allowed and what the preferences are. If the reply is "anything goes," consider what tree best symbolizes your father. An oak that bespeaks his strength? A redwood or hardy pine to symbolize his stature in your life? Or a weeping willow, as a statement that he will always be missed.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

HEY, MOM, DAD AND I ARE GOING FISHING. DON'T YOU WANT TO COME ALONG?
UGGH, NO. THE LAST THING I WANT TO SEE AT THIS UNGODLY HOUR IS A BUNCH OF SLIMY FISH GASPING AND FLOPPING IN THE SLOP AT THE BOTTOM OF A BOAT.
ALL ID LIKE TO SEE IS A DECENT NEWSPAPER, A FRESH MUFFIN AND A POT OF REAL COFFEE.
WHY'D WE EVER COME HERE THEN?
GO ASK CONAN THE BARBARIAN.
C'MON, CALVIN. I'LL TEACH YOU TO PUT A WORM ON A HOOK.
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WATTERSON

Garfield®

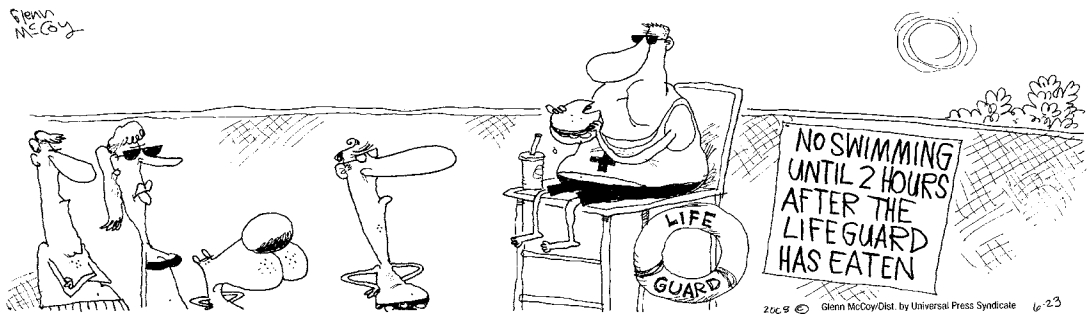
By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


Glenn McCoy
NO SWIMMING UNTIL 2 HOURS AFTER THE LIFEGUARD HAS EATEN
LIFE GUARD
2008 © Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate 6-23

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

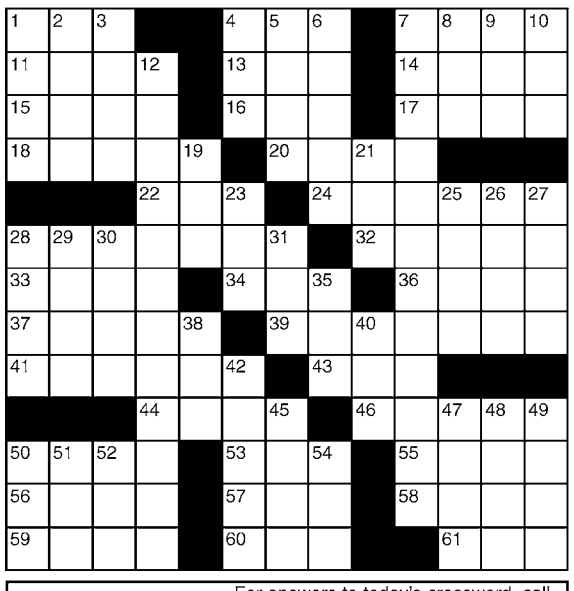
ACROSS
1 See 7-Down
4 Apiece
7 Starter home?
11 Parks of civil-rights fame
13 Idolater's emotion
14 Employ
15 Abba of Israel
16 Clerical title, briefly
17 Otherwise
18 Adolescence
20 Rhine feeder
22 Recede
24 Puts up
28 Suspecting unfaithfulness
32 Summer ermine
33 Approximately
34 Deity
36 Loathe
37 Inappropriate
39 Law student's worry
41 Echo
43 Angry
44 Ship's nose
46 "Twin —"
50 Object of worship
53 Be unwell
55 Canal zone?
56 Prima donna
57 "CSI" evidence
58 Incense
59 Fix, in a sense
60 Evergreen type
61 See 7-Down

DOWN
1 Deuce beater
2 Vagrant
3 Jacob's brother
4 Golf statistic
5 Basin accessory
6 Sketch show
7 With 1-Across, 61-Across, and 12-Down, range
8 Lubricant
9 "— Doubtfire"
10 Spelldown
12 See 7-Down
19 Showtime rival
21 "48 —"
23 Wiretap
25 Wheedle
26 "Farewell"
27 Goblet part
28 Soup du —
29 Sea eagle
30 Pronto, on a memo
31 Weep
35 Weir
38 Pitch
40 Knock
42 Sycophant
45 Sommelier's suggestion
47 Met melody
48 Potter's oven
49 Progeny
50 Egos' counterparts
51 Chips' enhancer
52 Eggs
54 Legislation

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	P	A	L	E	R	■	D	E	F	E	R	■
S	E	C	U	R	E	■	E	L	I	D	E	S
T	A	R	Z	A	N	■	T	A	R	G	E	T
O	N	O	■	S	E	T	O	N	■	E	V	E
M	U	S	H	■	W	A	X	■	P	I	E	R
A	T	S	E	A	■	D	E	F	E	N	S	E
■	■	■	■	A	C	T	■	S	I	C	■	■
T	E	S	T	E	E	S	■	G	O	T	T	A
O	R	C	H	■	L	A	M	■	S	O	U	R
O	R	O	■	D	E	M	I	T	■	U	T	E
T	A	R	M	A	C	■	T	A	R	P	O	N
S	T	E	R	N	O	■	E	X	P	E	R	T
■	A	S	S	A	M	■	R	I	M	E	S	■

Saturday's answer 6-23



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Selma Blair, 36; Louis van Amstel, 36; Frances McDormand, 51; Randy Jackson, 52

Happy Birthday: Explore new avenues even if you don't really feel like it. The information you discover will open your eyes to a whole new way of doing things. Get serious about what you want and who you want to spend time with and do whatever it takes to get your way. Doors will open if you adjust your ways just a little. Your numbers are 6, 13, 18, 25, 32, 45

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't let someone you are close to ruin your plans. Moving ahead alone will lead to an interesting turn of events and to individuals with ideas. Act fast and with confidence and you will reach your goal. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Taking anyone or anything too seriously will end in your loss. Make sure the information you've been given is factual. Someone is likely to use emotional blackmail to get you to do things his or her way. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Take pride in what you do and others will notice. A good idea can be put into play, aiding your advancement. A lesson learned will come to your rescue now. An investment deal or settlement can be dealt with positively. Change should not be initiated. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Not everything will go your way but, if you can remain lighthearted and positive, you can shake off the negativity that has been following you around. A friend is likely to show his or her true colors. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take a breather from your hectic schedule. Once you realize what's missing or needs to be changed you will be much happier with your choices. A more suitable position is apparent and should be considered. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Participating will be the key to everything that unfolds for you today. Don't wait for people and opportunities to come to you. Make it happen. It's time to be a leader, not a follower. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't expect everyone to be on your side. You can't always keep the peace in order to appease others. This is not a day to make sacrifices but rather to follow your heart and your goals. Thoughts should be followed by actions. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Confusion will lead to mistakes that you can't afford. Ask a trusted or experienced guide to help you make the right personal and professional choices. An emotional twist will end up being your saving grace. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Take off, go places, do things and avoid anyone putting demands on you. You will only feel obligated to do things you don't want to do. If someone wants to make changes, let him or her do it alone. ✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Your unusual approach to the way you do things will catch people off-guard. You can make some interesting vocational changes if you implement seldom-used talents. An opportunity to partner with someone is apparent. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Avoid arguments of any kind. Get out with friends or take up a hobby that will keep you busy and out of trouble. Look at any project or pastime that can lead to extra cash. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't question what others are doing or meddle in affairs that don't concern you or you will miss out on interesting options you have with loved ones. You can make some changes at home that will make your life easier and more interesting. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are inventive, curious, imaginative and playful. You have great enthusiasm and won't give in to pressure. You are sensitive, loving and clingy.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		3				6		
			6	3	9			
8			7		2			4
	3	7	9		6	1	5	
	8						3	
	2	9	3		1	4	6	
6			4		5			3
			1	2	3			
		1				5		

Difficulty Level ★ 6/23

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	6	3	9	1	5	4	8	7
7	9	1	8	3	4	6	2	5
8	5	4	7	6	2	9	1	3
4	3	9	6	7	1	2	5	8
6	8	2	5	4	3	7	9	1
5	1	7	2	9	8	3	6	4
3	7	5	1	2	9	8	4	6
1	2	6	4	8	7	5	3	9
9	4	8	3	5	6	1	7	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/21

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HAWAIIAN SANDALS **Solution: 8 letters**

(S)	R	W	O	O	D	E	N	N	T	C	L	A	Y	T
S	(E)	E	G	N	O	L	G	E	S	S	H	P	L	N
H	H	(O)	D	I	L	N	I	E	O	T	R	A	S	A
O	T	C	(T)	R	I	I	G	W	C	I	Y	U	I	D
E	A	F	O	K	O	N	N	T	C	E	E	L	Z	N
S	E	L	L	L	I	P	H	E	L	D	P	B	E	E
E	L	A	M	R	O	G	R	B	E	A	D	E	D	P
L	W	M	F	A	I	R	A	A	N	D	N	A	S	O
E	T	I	R	L	T	T	S	E	E	S	A	C	D	L
C	Y	N	U	A	R	E	R	Y	P	W	N	H	I	F
T	P	G	S	O	H	D	R	U	S	A	T	E	A	P
I	H	O	F	C	L	C	H	I	B	S	T	O	M	I
O	O	M	N	I	T	L	U	D	A	B	E	E	O	L
N	O	I	H	S	A	F	L	A	T	L	E	R	N	F
C	N	C	I	L	L	A	T	E	M	S	F	R	D	T

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Adult, Beach, Beaded, Between, Chain, Charm, Children, Clay, Colors, Comfortable, Cost, Diamond, Dressy, Fashion, Feet, Flamingo, Flat, Flip-flop, Footwear, Fringes, Inches, Leather, Light, Long, Material, Men's, Metallic, Online, Order, Patent, Pendant, Price, Rubber, Sand, Selection, Shoes, Size, Style, Suede, Surf, Toes, Typhoon, Walking, Wild, Wooden

Last Saturday's Answer: Balances

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CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Comfortable family home in Dandan, unfurnished, gated, walled, secure private, large living room, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 24 hr. water, 2nd floor family room, patios on 2nd & 3rd floor with BBQ, flowers & fruits, Call 322-0268

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water $210/month, near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

Apartment Room for Rent
2BR $210. 3BR $270, Koblerville.
Tel. # 288-0728-Yoon Won Suck

WHATZIT Solution: Jack-in-the-box

FOR RENT - COMMERCIAL

2 Commercial Space for Rent.
One 2000 sq.ft. & One 1000 sq.ft.
Garapan area across Treasure Island Game Club. Contact Emil De Belen @ 483-3645/233-5100

FOR RENT

ONE BR. APT. NEAR MHS, in a quiet, secure area behind Calvo's Market, off Texas Rd. 24hrs. govt. & rain water. Fully air conditioned and furnished with walk in closets. All rooms also have ceiling fans. Has its own washing machine, $425. **Call Ed at 235-0409.**

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

C K O N F A F V I E N

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Cink takes 2-stroke lead into Travelers finale

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP)—Stewart Cink birdied the final two holes Saturday to take a two-stroke lead into the final round of the Travelers Championship.

Cink followed his opening rounds of 66 and 64 with a 5-under 65 to reach 15-under 195 on the TPC River Highlands, the best 54-hole score of his career.

Heath Slocum (64) was second, and defending champion Hunter Mahan (67), Vijay Singh (64), Kenny Perry (65), Tommy Armour III (65) and Kevin Streelman (62) were 12 under.

On a day when 24 golfers shot 66 or better, 17 players ended up within five shots of the lead going into Sunday's final round. The average score of 68.2 was the best ever for a third round on the course.

Cink expects to have to be at 20 under on Sunday to have a chance to win.

"Some guys got hot and boom, they're up there at double-digits under par," Cink said. "I don't see any reason why it wouldn't be the same way tomorrow."

Cink is looking for his first victory this year after six top-10 finishes. He is ranked seventh in the FedEx Cup point standings, the highest ranking of any golfer who hasn't won a tournament. But he usually plays well here, on a course where he earned his first tour victory as a rookie in 1997.

Cink had dropped in a tie with Slocum after hitting his tee shot on 16 into the water, but rebounded with an 11-foot birdie put on 17, and hit an approach within 2 feet on 18.

AP

Stewart Cink reacts after making a birdie on the seventeenth hole of the third round of the Travelers Championship golf tournament in Cromwell, Conn., on Saturday June 21, 2008.

"I felt like I gained some momentum back and put myself in a good mind-set for tomorrow," Cink said.

Slocum, who shot a 65 last Sunday for the low round at the U.S. Open, said that play has carried over. He bogeyed two holes on the front nine, then adjusted his swing and hit all nine greens after the turn. He finished with eight birdies.

"Definitely the putter has carried over to this week," he said. "I'm going to probably have to lean on it tomorrow hard if I'm going to think about winning this golf tournament."

Singh began making a move on the par-3 fifth, knocking in a 52-foot birdie put from the edge of the green and eagled the next hole after putting his second shot 4 feet below the pin.

Singh appeared to be in position to birdie the 18th after hitting a tee shot 341 yards. But his wedge shot found a right-side bunker and he missed a 6-foot par put.

"When I took off today, I needed 7, 8, 9 under to have a good chance tomorrow," Singh said. "I'm very close. I still have to go out there tomorrow and shoot a good number."

Course conditions have been almost perfect for the first three days of play. Rain Friday night kept the greens soft, and with little wind, players were again aiming for the flag.

Streelman, D.J. Trahan and Chad Campbell all went out early and shot 62, one off the course record.

"On these greens, if you give yourself enough looks, eventually you're going to make some putts, and I finally did that," Trahan said. "When you're stroking it well, you kind of feel like almost all your putts have a chance. That's the way I felt today."

Trahan and Campbell were at 199, tied for eighth place.

Streelman, who led after the first round of last week's U.S. Open, shot a 3-over 73 on Thursday and didn't expect to be here for the weekend. But he followed that up with a 63 on Friday.

"I was very proud of the way I bounced back and then to back it up with a 62 is pretty cool," Streelman said.

The 125 over those two rounds set a tournament record for consecutive rounds, and was just one shot off the PGA Tour record set by Mark Calcavecchia in 2001 at the Phoenix Open.

With rain in the forecast Sunday afternoon, tournament officials decided to start the final round early, with threesomes going off holes one and 10 at 7:30 a.m.. The leaders were scheduled to tee off at 9:30 a.m. and the officials expect the tournament to be over before 2 p.m.

"It makes the wake-up call a little bit earlier," Slocum said. "But, I have a 6-month-old, so I'll be up."

James, Wade set to restore US basketball pride

AKRON, Ohio (AP)—LeBron James and Dwyane Wade cruised city streets on bicycles Saturday for charity. Soon, the NBA superstars will be touring China for gold.

James and Wade have been selected to play on the U.S. Olympic basketball team, which will be formally introduced on Monday by coach Mike Krzyzewski and USA Basketball managing director Jerry Colangelo. The 12-man squad, which will also include NBA MVP Kobe Bryant, Jason Kidd and Carmelo Anthony, will try to win a gold medal that has eluded the Americans since 1996.

This will be the second Olympics for Cleveland's James and Miami's Wade, who were on the American team that finished a disappointing third and won a bronze medal at the Athens Games in 2004.

"It's easy to focus on USA Basketball right now," James said. "We have one goal, and that's to win a gold medal. We're very excited about it. We don't worry about the rest. We worry about getting in shape and getting ready to win a gold medal, that's our only concern."

James was joined at his "King for Kids Bike-a-thon" by Wade, Cavaliers coach Mike Brown, former Indians center fielder Kenny Lofton and NBA great Spencer Haywood, the leading scorer on the 1968 U.S. team that won gold in Mexico City. More than 2,000 riders took part in the event held in James' hometown.

While James' spot on the U.S. roster was a given, Wade's wasn't assured until recently.

His season ended in March, shut down by a left knee that never was right following surgery in 2007. Wade has been in Chicago working out since early May, and while he was there, both James and New Orleans Hornets guard Chris Paul—also expected to be named to the U.S. team—joined their good friend to help him polish his game.

"One thing that really helped my confidence was when LeBron and C.P. came to Chicago and we played together," said Wade, who missed 31 games last season, an absence that sent the Heat plummeting to a 15-67 record. "We really took it up a notch and it was very competitive and I was doing what I normally do, so I was feeling good."

Colangelo came to Chicago to see Wade play and came away convinced the 6-foot-4 guard was healthy.

Wade never wondered whether he'd be able to get ready.

"It's all about me being healthy," he said. "I've never doubted my talent. It's just making sure I'm healthy for the long haul. Once I knew that weeks and weeks ago, then I was confident in moving forward."

For James and Wade, playing with so many other top players will be a luxury they don't get during the regular season. Instead of having to do nearly everything to help their teams win, they'll have plenty of help.

"We got 12 guys that can be out on the court for a long period of time, so it's not like on our respective teams where we're the only go-to guys, where every time we come down on the offensive end we're the guy they have to go to," James said. "If we wanted to on Team USA, we could go to Kobe Bryant 20 straight possessions. We can go to Carmel Anthony 20 straight possessions. We can to go D-Wade 20 straight possessions. It's not like we're going to be exerting a lot of energy like we would if we were on the Cavs or the Heat."

Proceeds from the bike-a-thon will be divided among the Akron Area YMCA, the Akron Urban League and the LeBron James Family Foundation.

Spurs coach cautions Manu Ginobili on Olympics

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said Thursday that Manu Ginobili should "definitely not" play for Argentina in the Olympics if his injured left ankle doesn't improve.

Ginobili hurt his ankle early in the playoffs and a recent MRI revealed that a ligament in his heel is about five times the size of the one in his other heel, Popovich said.

Ginobili will have another MRI in three weeks, but Popovich said that "if it hasn't changed at all, I think he should definitely not play in the Olympics."

Popovich said Ginobili will wear a walking boot for the next few weeks. The guard's signature explosiveness was hampered during the playoffs, particularly during the Western Conference finals against Los Angeles.

"He understands fully on an intellectual basis the problem here and he doesn't want to jeopardize his season with the Spurs," Popovich said. "Now Manu also has a pretty high pain tolerance, as we all know. So in that sense, I'm maybe not trying to convince him, but put the facts in front of him so he can make his own decision at some point."

Popovich said that the Spurs are supportive of summertime play, especially when it's organized—as opposed to pickup games—something that he said tends to reduce the risk for injury.

"But I've never felt like this before where I've been very nervous about him playing," Popovich said. "And if it's the same as it is now I just don't think he should play and I think he needs to have that opinion. I think I have to say that to him."

At the end of the season in late May, Ginobili had an injection in the ankle and said he expected it to improve quickly. But he told Argentine media Wednesday that doctors told him the injury was worse than he thought. He said he must immobilize the ankle for 3-4 weeks, but that he still hopes to play for Argentina.

"Maybe the best thing that could happen would be if we, in three weeks from now, we take the picture and everything is calmed down and it's back to normal," Popovich said. "But if it's not, we've got a problem."

Argentina won the gold medal in 2004 in Athens. The team begins practices in early July.

NHRA driver Kalitta killed in horrific crash

ENGLISHTOWN, N.J. (AP)—Scott Kalitta died Saturday when his Funny Car burst into flames and crashed at the end of the track during the final round of qualifying for the Lucas Oil NHRA SuperNationals at Old Bridge Township Raceway Park.

The NHRA said the 46-year-old Kalitta—the 1994 and 1995 Top Fuel season champion who had 18 career victories, 17 in Top Fuel and one in Funny Car—was taken to the Old Bridge division of Raritan Bay Medical Center, where he died a short time later.

Kalitta's Toyota Solara was traveling at about 300 mph when it burst into flames.

The Palmetto, Fla., resident started his career at Old Bridge Township Raceway Park in 1982. His father, Connie Kalitta, was a longtime driver and team owner known as "The Bounty Hunter," and his cousin, Doug Kalitta, also drives competitively.

"We are deeply saddened and want to pass along our sincere condolences to the entire Kalitta family," the NHRA said in a statement. "Scott shared the same passion for drag racing as his legendary father, Connie. He also shared the same desire to win, becoming a two-time series world champion. He left the sport for a period of time, to devote more time to his family, only to be driven to return to the drag strip to regain his championship form. ... He will be truly missed by the entire NHRA community."

Kalitta had most of his racing success in Top Fuel, highlighted by his series titles in 1994 and 1995. He retired from racing in 1997, sitting out most of two seasons before returning for a 10-race campaign in 1999. He sat out three more seasons following that brief stint and then returned again in 2003, joining cousin Doug as a second driver for the family's two Top Fuel dragsters

Homers power Cubs past White Sox for 2nd straight day

CHICAGO (AP)—The Cubs own the best record in the majors and it sure looks as if they're the top team in their own town, too.

Jim Edmonds homered twice, Mike Fontenot went deep and Aramis Ramirez added a three-run shot, all during a nine-run fourth inning Saturday that helped the Cubs beat the White Sox 11-7 to win for the second straight day in the meeting of first-place teams.

The Cubs hit back-to-back homers twice in the fourth inning—the second straight day they've hit consecutive homers against their city rivals—and finished with 15 hits. They've now won 13 straight at Wrigley Field, where they are 31-8 this season.

The White Sox led 4-1 after two-run homers from Jermaine Dye and DeWayne Wise, before the Cubs jumped all over Jose Contreras (6-6), combining eight hits, including the four homers, into their biggest inning of the season.

The outburst made it easy for Jason Marquis (6-3) to win his fourth straight start and fifth straight decision. He gave up eight hits and five runs in seven innings and also collected two hits.

Rockies 7, Mets 1

At Denver, Garrett Atkins and Brad Hawpe homered on Pedro Martinez's first two pitches in the fifth inning, touching off a six-run burst that led the Rockies over New York.

Martinez (2-1) cruised through the first four innings before the Rockies broke loose.

Ubaldo Jimenez (2-7) pitched eight strong innings for his first win in more than two months. He limited the Mets to one run and two hits—he also singled twice and scored a run.

Martinez lasted just 4 1-3 innings, his shortest outing since coming off the disabled list June 3. He'd struck out five before Atkins homered over the left-field wall and Hawpe hit a drive to right.

Cardinals 9, Red Sox 3

At Boston, Troy Glaus hit a grand slam and St. Louis rocked Daisuke Matsuzaka in his return from the disabled list.

On the DL since May 30 because of a mild strain in his rotator cuff, Matsuzaka (8-1) was tagged for seven runs in one-plus inning. It was shortest outing of his brief major league career.

Mitchell Boggs (2-0) pitched effectively into the sixth inning in his third big league start. Aaron Miles and Rick Ankiel also homered for St. Louis.

The Cardinals had scored just four runs in their previous three games before defeating Boston 5-4 Friday night.

J.D. Drew homered for the Red Sox, who lost for just the fourth time in 24 home games.

Indians 7, Dodgers 2, 11 innings

At Los Angeles, pitcher C.C. Sabathia hit a tape-measure home run and struck out 10, highlighting Cleveland's win over the Dodgers.

Jamey Carroll opened a six-run 11th with a single and capped the burst with a sacrifice fly.

Sabathia launched a home run estimated at 440 feet and improved to 12-for-40 (.300) lifetime as a hitter. He has two career homers and seven RBIs. He allowed one run and five hits over seven innings, and improved his league-leading strikeout total to 107.

Cory Wade (0-1) took the loss.

Masahide Kobayashi (4-3) pitched a perfect 10th inning for the victory and Scott Elarton finished up, allowing an RBI double by James Loney.

Angels 6, Phillies 2

At Philadelphia, Erick Aybar hit a tie-breaking two-run homer in the eighth inning and Vladimir Guerrero connected twice to back another strong performance by Joe Saunders, and Los Angeles beat Philadelphia.

Saunders (11-3) allowed two runs and five hits in seven innings. He had 15 career victories entering this season, but is now tied with Arizona's Brandon Webb for most wins in the majors.

The left-hander hadn't allowed a runner past first base until running into trouble with two outs in the seventh. But the Angels quickly answered off Brett Myers (3-9).

Chone Figgins singled with two outs and Aybar followed with a drive to right field for his third career homer in 393 at-bats. Aybar entered the game in the third inning because shortstop Maicer Izturis left with tightness in his right hamstring.

The Angels have won the first two games in this interleague matchup of division leaders. Since sweeping a three-game series in Atlanta earlier this month, the Phillies are 3-8, including their first four-game losing streak of the season.

Reds 6, Yankees 0

At New York, Edwin Encarnacion broke up an unlikely pitchers' duel with a two-run single in the seventh inning and Cincinnati beat New York.

Encarnacion's two-out hit off Dan Giese (1-2) gave Cincinnati the lead and Corey Patterson followed with a drive to right off Jose Veras for his 100th career homer. Brandon Phillips tacked on a two-run single in the eighth.

Daryl Thompson worked five innings in his major league debut for Cincinnati, which has won the first two games in its first trip to the Bronx since it swept New York in the 1976 World Series.

Thompson and Giese locked up in the first matchup of pitchers making their first major league start at Yankee Stadium since Boston's Tony Welzer faced New York's Myles Thompson on April 22, 1926, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Bill Bray (2-0) followed Thompson with 1 1-3 innings, David Weathers got two outs and Jared Burton worked the eighth before Jeremy Affeldt finished the seven-hitter.

Rays 4, Astros 3

At St. Petersburg, Fla., pinch-hitter Gabe Gross doubled with the bases loaded, driving in two runs in the bottom of ninth inning to give Tampa Bay its sixth win in eight games, pulling the Rays within a half-game of Boston in the AL East.

With Houston leading 3-2 in the ninth, Astros manager Cecil Cooper turned to Doug Brocail (2-3) instead of calling on closer Jose Valverde to finish the game. It turned out to be the wrong move; Brocail failed to record an out.

Gross was the third straight pinch hitter to come through for the Rays, who got a leadoff single from Cliff Floyd off Brocail. The Houston pitcher then allowed pinch-hitter Eric Hinske to single and hit pinch-hitter Dioner Navarro with a pitch to load the bases for Gross.

The Astros have lost nine of 10. Their 4-3 win over the Rays on Friday night was their only win since June 10.

Former Astros pitcher Dan Wheeler (2-3) got the win for the Rays.

Brewers 3, Orioles 2

At Milwaukee, Corey Hart hit a two-run homer, Seth McClung continued his superb June and Milwaukee snapped Baltimore's four-game winning streak.

The Brewers won for the fifth time in six games overall and for the 11th time in their last 14 home games.

McClung (5-3), a one-time reliever, struck out six and improved to 3-1 with a 2.55 ERA this month. He gave up two runs and three hits with five walks in 6 2-3 innings, retiring 12 of the first 13 batters.

Daniel Cabrera (5-3), who had struggled with 17 walks over his previous five starts, struck out a season-high eight in six innings and didn't allow a free pass until the fifth. He gave up three runs and seven hits with three walks in all.

Pirates 6, Blue Jays 3

At Pittsburgh, Jason Bay, Raul Chavez and Jose Bautista each hit two-run homers, helping Pittsburgh extend Toronto's season-high losing streak to seven games.

Rod Barajas had two hits and two RBIs and Vernon Wells had two hits and scored two runs for the Blue Jays, who lost for the second consecutive night in Pittsburgh under new manager Cito Gaston.

Bautista had three hits and Matt Capps pitched a perfect ninth for his 17th save.

AP

Chicago Cubs' Jim Edmonds celebrates with his teammate after hitting his second solo home run against Chicago White Sox during the fourth inning of an interleague baseball game Saturday, June 21, 2008 in Chicago.

Paul Maholm (5-5) gave up three runs on seven hits and three walks in seven innings to win his third straight decision in six starts since May 20.

Jesse Litsch (7-4) only allowed six baserunners during his six innings of work—but they all scored. He gave up five hits and a walk to lose his third consecutive decision.

Twins 6, Diamondbacks 1

At Minneapolis, Joe Mauer started a six-run seventh inning for Minnesota with a surprise bunt single, and Nick Blackburn pitched seven shutout innings to get the Twins their fifth straight victory.

Blackburn (6-4) surrendered only three hits, two by Stephen Drew, and struck out three. He threw just 89 pitches.

Stepping in to start the seventh, Mauer bent down on a first-pitch fastball from Micah Owings (6-6) and sent a bunt toward replacement third baseman Augie Ojeda. Mauer barely beat it out, but then Justin Morneau followed with an RBI double that tied the game and the rout was on—ruining a solid performance by the previously struggling Owings.

Royals 5, Giants 3

At Kansas City, Missouri, Gil Meche won consecutive starts for the first time this season, Jose Guillen hit a two-run homer and Kansas City defeated San Francisco.

Meche lost his shutout in the sixth when Fred Lewis and Ray Durham led off with singles. Randy Winn hit a comebacker, but Meche's throwing error to second allowed Lewis to score and Durham to take third, and Bengie Molina followed with a sacrifice fly that made it 3-2.

Guillen, who is fourth in the American League with 57 RBIs, connected in the seventh off reliever Billy Sadler. It was his 12th homer of the year and 39th extra-base hit.

Meche (5-8) was pulled after 101 pitches in 5 2-3 innings. He allowed two runs, one earned, on three hits and two walks while striking out seven.

Kevin Correia (1-5) was making just his second start since missing six weeks with a left intercostal strain. He worked five innings and allowed three runs on six hits, while walking four and striking out two.

Rangers 13, Nationals 3

At Washington, Kason Gabbard won for the first time since April 4, David Murphy and Ramon Vazquez had three RBIs each and Texas beat Washington.

Ian Kinsler led the game off with a fly ball that left fielder Wily Mo Pena deflected into the visitors bullpen for a home run, his 11th.

The Rangers scored seven runs in the seventh on a two-run single by Michael Young, RBI singles by Josh Hamilton and Murphy, and a bases-loaded double by Vazquez. The seven runs equaled Texas' biggest inning of the season.

The Nationals have lost eight of their last 10 home games and 14 of 20 overall.

Gabbard (2-3) was staked to 3-0 lead before he threw a pitch on Kinsler's homer and a two-run double by Murphy off Garrett Mock (0-2).

Bengals' Johnson has minor ankle surgery

CINCINNATI (AP)—Receiver Chad Johnson is expected to be fully recovered from ankle surgery when the Cincinnati Bengals open training camp next month.

Johnson had his troublesome right ankle cleaned out Wednesday. He is expected to be ready for the start of training camp on July 27.

The ankle bothered Johnson last year, and the team recommended surgery when the season ended. Johnson declined, and the ankle became an issue at the team's mandatory minicamp last week. The Pro Bowl receiver said he couldn't practice because the ankle was bothering him.

Johnson has been lobbying for a trade since the end of last season. The Bengals refused, and Johnson has threatened to sit out the season if he's not dealt to another team.

USUAL

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while, saw three heats with exciting finishes.

PNG's Kupun Wisil (11.17) came in first among the 22 participants with the CNMI's Tyrone Omar and the Solomon Islands' Francis Manioru finishing second with identical times of 11.19. Solomon Islands' Jack Iroga came in at 11.21, while Omar's Micronesian Games rival, John Howard clocked in at 11.32.

Other CNMI sprinters that saw action in the 100m for men were Jesus Iguel (11.82), Luis Iguel (12.21), and Juan Iguel (12.51).

As the effects of travel disappear and more people enter the competition, the men's 100m race is expected to produce a few sub-11 times, according to Oceania Athletics.

Favorite Aunese Curreen of Samoa, meanwhile, topped the men's 1500m with a time of 3:59:51, but not before being challenged by Fiji's Isireli Naikelekelevesi, who came in at 4:07:39. CNMI teenagers Champ Untalan and Matthew Manacao finished with times of 4:55:20 and 4:55:89.

Salome Dell of PNG was the only woman in the race and ran with the men. The experience only made her run faster as evidenced by the 4:37:14 it took for her to finish en route to a new national record.

Pacific Islands discus record holder, Tereapii Tapoki of Cook Islands was a clear winner with a throw of 50.37m. Followed by Tahiti's Perle Buard (31:43m) and Guam's Genie Gierardo (29.45).

New Caledonia's Frederic Erin, for his part, was a convincing winner in the triple jump. He had a good series with four jumps over 15m, the best being 15.41m.

Second was Fiji's Eugene Vollmer, who had only one jump of 14.51m before withdrawing injured. PNG's Mong Tavol also finished injured but his 13.53 was good enough for third.

The CNMI's Trevor Ogumoro and Jericho Cruz were good for fourth and fifth, with jumps of 11.51m and 11.39m, respectively.

The women's triple jump was won by Wonenberg with 9.59m, followed by 14-year-old Liamwar Rangamar (8.40).

New Caledonia's Daniel Kilama easily won the shot put with a throw of 16.67m. In second place was Fiji's Leslie Copeland, a javelin specialist, who logged in a 13.36m.

The javelin contests were won by the host islands' Nick Gross with 57.25m and Tahiti's Perle Buard with 35.70m, respectively. Gross' teammate, Dexter Dillay, threw a 40.20m.

The women's shot put was won by Gierardo, with 9.47m, and the men's high jump by PNG's Sandy Katusele with a height of 1.85m. Ogumoro and Cruz of the CNMI, meanwhile, leapt to heights of 1.60m.

The winner of the men's 5000m was Tahiti's Teiva Izal in 16:49.29 after his opponent, Brendan Whelan of Australia, pulled out.

PNG teammates Mowen Boino (52.16) with Wala Gime (54.96) came in first and second in the men's 400m hurdles, while compatriot Sharon Henry won the women's race in 62.05. Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel and Clayton Kenty of the CNMI had times of 61.95 and 68.38, respectively.

The teams continued to arrive Saturday night and early Sunday morning—via Seoul and Hong Kong. Most of the Grand Prix athletes are on the ground, although some are a bit sleep-deprived.

Day 2 of the Oceania Grand Prix will have far more on-the-ground and wide-awake athletes competing, and the fields will be larger and more competitive.

Those that participated Saturday, however, have a good start in the points competition for overall Grand Prix prizes.

Unlike the 2008 Oceania Championships, the Grand Prix went straight to competition with athletes from the 21 member-nations of the Oceania Athletics Association—save for Australia and New Zealand—vying for valuable points that carryover to the Oceania Championships.

WHELAN

From Page 28

cal runners—including Eli Torgeson—a neat lesson in running the 10-kilometer event by taking 3:20 off the old record.

He admitted that he was merely coasting in the Silver Streak and said he actually ran a 4-mile race in just over 11 minutes recently.

The Aussie also said despite his pullout from the Grand Prix's 5000m, he will definitely not attempt the same stunt in the 2008 Oceania Championships.

He said Australia and New Zealand are not awarded points in the Grand Prix and thus the event only serves as a practice round for them.

"I'm defending champion in the half marathon and the 5,000m so I'm hoping to defend. In the last [Oceania] Championships in Samoa I got silver in the Cross Country. So I got two golds and a silver last time and I'm hoping to go one better and get the three golds this time," he said.

As for Izal, Whelan said he doesn't see him as a serious challenge in the events that actually count for him later this week.

"I think he ran a 16:40 today, I ran the 14s so there's a big difference. In the Championships I will finish and [if he clips me again, I] will file a protest."

ADELBAI

From Page 28

shoulder due to the take down I did to him," Adelbai said in an interview with the *Saipan Tribune* following the fight.

Taisacan, for his part, said although he doesn't believe the injury was a dislocated shoulder it was really painful nonetheless.

"I don't think it's dislocated but it's really painful. That's why his knee came into my face. I cannot move it (arm). I was going to continue but the problem is my shoulder and what's the use if I cannot defend myself," he said.

Taisacan said he is willing to fight Adelbai again and would "love a rematch."

Told that his opponent was hoping for a return engagement, Adelbai's answer was short and straight, "I'm willing to give him a rematch—anytime and anywhere."

Taisacan's injury followed an announcement that the main event between Myron "The Natural" San Nicolas and Jason "Rush" Tarkong in the 170-lb. weight class was called off after San Nicolas failed to shed 28 lbs.

South Syde Syndicates' Nick "The Slick" San Nicolas also proved true to his moniker when he failed to show up in his heavyweight grudge match against Ton "Butdosa" Sablan.

San Nicolas called out Trench Tech's Sablan weeks prior to Trench Warz VIII and even joked with the 300-pounder during the weigh-in Friday at the Hard Rock Café Saipan.

MARK MENDIOLA

Trench Tech's Slade "The Rage" Adelbai is about to body slam Haga Team's Neil "Lion Heart" Taisacan in the semi main event of last Saturday's Trench Warz VII-Kontra at the Trench Tech Gym in San Antonio.

Other than San Nicolas failing to make weight and the other San Nicolas' no-show, the rest of the bouts in Trench Tech VIII had the crowd cheering and on their feet at the sweltering hot Trench Tech Gym.

In the first bout, Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez defeated Predators' Brandon "Commotion" Camacho via referee stoppage 2:51 into the second round.

Spike 22 Guam's Jun "Shockerraba" San Nicolas' armbar, meanwhile, forced Zalaka's Lyle DL Guerrero to tap-out as the first round was about to end in Trench Warz VIII's second bout.

Another Guamanian was victorious in the third bout of the evening, as Team Fight to Win's Ryan "The Dentist" Urquizu beat Zalaka's Arnold "Killer B" Balbin 35 seconds into the first round using his patented guillotine choke.

Andrew Sablan finally won a bout for Zalaka when he used a triangle choke to upend Trench Tech's "Badd" Bradd Palacios 4:33 into the third round.

Chris Layug of Trench Tech was also a winner in his fight against Zalaka's Derrek Chen when the referee stepped in and stopped the fight 57 seconds in the first round after a flurry of punches by Layug had Chen backing off.

Trench Tech's Giovanni Sablan, for his part, utilized a rear-naked choke to take out Marianas Elite's Matai "The Charger" Charly in the 3:37-mark of the opening round.

The biggest upset of the day, however, saw Trench Tech's Darryl "The Derailer" Salas beat "Kill" Bill Saures after a flurry of punches forced the referee to halt the fight 4:36 into the first round.

Rudy "The Uzi" San Nicolas scored another win via arm bar submission for Spike 22 Guam when he forced independent fighter "Tabi" Jay Muna to tap out 40 seconds into the first round.

"Brutal" Bryson Sablan of the Predators, on the other hand, used a knee-lock submission to force Trench Tech/Grappling Unlimited Hawaii's "No Way" Jose Mafnas to retire 3:29 into the opening round.

Marianas Elite's Syl "The Deal" Teregeyo, meanwhile, cut the taller Rob "Pitbull" Palacios down to size after beating the South Syde Syndicates fighter with an arm-lock submission 2:20 into the first round.

JOJI

From Page 28

Speaker Arnold Palacios and Rudy Sablan, while C Flight was won by John Terlaje followed by George Sablan and Ray Villagomez.

In the Ladies Flight, Loudes Kim won the Low Gross competition after needing just 85 strokes to finish 18 holes of golf. Kim came away with a 42-43 in the front and back nines.

Alice Taitano and Terry Tudela, meanwhile, finished second and third in the Ladies Low Net with their post-handicap scores of 63 and 74, respectively.

The Taguchis, Cataluna, Terlaje, and Taitano went home with $300, while their respective runners-up and third place finishers won $200 and $100. All winners also received handsome trophies courtesy of the organizing committee.

Hole-in-one challenges were also in the mix in holes No. 3 (automobile), 7 ($10,000), 12 (automobile/motorcycle), and 14 ($10,000), but none of the golfers was successful in their attempts.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	46	31	.597	_
Tampa Bay	44	30	.595	1/2
New York	40	35	.533	5
Baltimore	38	35	.521	6
Toronto	35	41	.461	10 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	41	33	.554	_
Minnesota	39	36	.520	2 1/2
Detroit	35	39	.473	6
Cleveland	35	40	.467	6 1/2
Kansas City	32	43	.427	9 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	45	30	.600	_
Oakland	40	34	.541	4 1/2
Texas	38	38	.500	7 1/2
Seattle	26	48	.351	18 1/2
Philadelphia	42	34	.553	_
Florida	40	34	.541	1
New York	36	37	.493	4 1/2
Atlanta	37	39	.487	5
Washington	30	46	.395	12

Central Division

Chicago	47	28	.627	_
St. Louis	44	32	.579	3 1/2
Milwaukee	40	34	.541	6 1/2
Pittsburgh	36	39	.480	11
Cincinnati	35	41	.461	12 1/2
Houston	34	41	.453	13

West Division

Arizona	39	36	.520	_
Los Angeles	34	40	.459	4 1/2
Colorado	32	43	.427	7
San Francisco	32	43	.427	7
San Diego	32	44	.421	7 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Cincinnati 6, N.Y. Yankees 0
Chicago Cubs 11, Chicago White Sox 7
St. Louis 9, Boston 3
Cleveland 7, L.A. Dodgers 2, 11 innings
Tampa Bay 4, Houston 3
Pittsburgh 6, Toronto 3
Milwaukee 3, Baltimore 2
L.A. Angels 6, Philadelphia 2
Atlanta 5, Seattle 4
Texas 13, Washington 3
Minnesota 6, Arizona 1
Kansas City 5, San Francisco 3
Colorado 7, N.Y. Mets 1
Florida 6, Oakland 4
Detroit 7, San Diego 5

TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

CROMWELL, Connecticut (AP)–Scores from Saturday's third round of the Travelers Championship, a $6 million (£4 million) U.S. PGA Tour event at 6,837-yard, par-70 (35-35) TPC River Highlands:

THIRD ROUND

Stewart Cink	66-64-65	195
Heath Slocum	67-66-64	197
Kevin Streelman	73-63-62	198
Vijay Singh	66-68-64	198
Tommy Armour III	69-64-65	198
Kenny Perry	66-67-65	198
Hunter Mahan	68-63-67	198
D.J. Trahan	67-70-62	199
Chad Campbell	67-70-62	199
Michael Letzig	68-68-63	199
Chris DiMarco	66-69-64	199
Jon Mills	70-64-65	199
Brenden Pappas	69-65-65	199
Fred Funk	66-68-65	199
David Toms	67-69-64	200
Jason Day	67-67-66	200
Steve Elkington	70-64-66	200
Brad Adamonis	64-68-68	200
Bob Estes	69-68-64	201
John Huston	65-69-67	201
Bubba Watson	66-68-67	201
Tom Pernice, Jr.	65-68-68	201
Ken Duke	65-66-70	201
Nick O'Hern	68-69-65	202
Tag Ridings	66-70-66	202
Greg Kraft	69-67-66	202
Johnson Wagner	64-71-67	202
Tim Herron	66-69-67	202
John Rollins	70-64-68	202
Lucas Glover	65-66-71	202
Bob Sowards	67-70-66	203
Briny Baird	67-70-66	203
Matt Kuchar	67-70-66	203
Justin Rose	65-72-66	203
Dustin Johnson	66-70-67	203
Jason Allred	68-67-68	203
Michael Allen	69-66-68	203
Ben Curtis	68-66-69	203
Brian Davis	64-70-69	203
Webb Simpson	67-70-67	204
Larry Mize	67-70-67	204
J.J. Henry	66-70-68	204
Nicholas Thompson	67-69-68	204
Kevin Na	69-66-69	204
Bill Haas	68-67-69	204
Corey Pavin	68-66-70	204
Michael H. Thompson	65-67-72	204
Kevin Sutherland	67-65-72	204
Scott McCarron	68-69-68	205
Joe Ogilvie	70-67-68	205
Craig Kanada	67-68-70	205
Carl Pettersson	70-65-70	205
Jason Gore	71-66-69	206
Olin Browne	68-69-69	206
Steve Lowery	64-73-69	206
Billy Andrade	69-68-69	206
Peter Lonard	66-70-70	206
Stuart Appleby	68-66-72	206
Brett Rumford	68-66-72	206
Notah Begay III	66-71-70	207
Billy Mayfair	66-70-71	207
Peter Karmis	65-70-72	207
Harrison Frazar	69-68-71	208
Charlie Wi	68-68-72	208
Andrew Buckle	68-68-72	208
Dudley Hart	68-68-72	208
John Mallinger	67-67-74	208
Steve Marino	67-70-72	209
Kent Jones	66-70-73	209
Jim McGovern	67-69-75	211
Chris Stroud	67-69-75	211
Vaughn Taylor	67-68-78	213

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

Grand Prix Day 2 Schedule (June 23)

5pm	Women's Hammer Throw
5pm	Men's Hammer Throw
5pm	Women's 200m Sprint
5:20pm	Men's 200 Sprint
5:30pm	Women's Long Jump
5:30pm	Men's Long Jump
5:45pm	Women's 800m Run
6pm	Men's 800m Run
6pm	Women's Discus Throw
6pm	Women's 100m Hurdles
6:15pm	Men's 110m Hurdles
6:30pm	Women's 3000m Steeplechase
6:45pm	Men's 3000m Steeplechase
6:45pm	Men's Discus Throw
7pm	Women's 400m Sprint
7:15pm	Men's 400m Sprint

Hammer, long jump, and discus from 5pm onwards

2008 Oceania Grand Prix

Photos by
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Far left, Sandy Katusele of Papua New Guinea recorded a 1.85m in the high jump.

Left, Nick Gross of the CNMI threw the javelin 57.25m as the 2008 Oceania Grand Prix kicked off Saturday at the Oleai Track and Field.

Left, the first of three heats in the men's 100m starts.

Below, an unidentified athlete literally hits paydirt in the triple jump.

New Caledonia's Daniel Kilama muscled his way to a distance of 16.67m in the shot put.

Australia's Brendan (78) Whalen leads Tahiti's Teiva Izal in the 5000m. Whalen later pulled out of the race.

Samoa's Aunese Curreen (10) and Fiji's Isirel Naikelekelevesi (23) in the 1500m run of last Saturday's 2008 Oceania Grand Prix at the Oleai Track and Field.

Papua New Guinea's Sharon Kwarula and the CNMI's Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel in action in the 400m hudrles.

Mong Tovel of Papua New Guinea finished third in the triple jump after leaping to a distance of 13.53m.

A spread-eagled Jericho Cruz of the CNMI competes in the triple jump.

Homers power Cubs past White Sox for 2nd straight day

The Cubs own the best record in the majors and it sure looks as if they're the top team in their own town, too.

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Cink takes 2-stroke lead into Travelers finale

Stewart Cink birdied the final two holes Saturday to take a two-stroke lead into the final round of the Travelers Championship.

24

Usual suspects, few surprises as Oceania Grand Prix starts

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ
Brendan Whelan of Australia and Teiva Izal of Tahiti in the 5000m event of the 2008 Oceania Championships.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ
The second heat of the men's 100m in Day 1 of the 2008 Oceania Grand Prix Saturday at the Oleai Track and Field. Rightmost is the CNMI's Tyrone Omar who topped the heat and finished second in the century dash in 11.19.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

The 2008 Oceania Grand Prix kicked off without much fanfare Saturday at the Oleai Track and Field with a mixed bag of results due to redeye flights and jetlag affecting the region's top athletes.

According to Oceania Athletics, many of the athletes still suffered from lack of sleep and the fields were not large, except in the 100m events, where 22 were entered in the men's and a full field of eight in the women's.

Papua New Guinea's Mae Koime and Toea Wisil, as expected, finished 1-2 in the women's 100m, clocking in at 11.70 and 11.90, respectively. Fiji's Makelesi Tumalevu finished in third place with a time of 12.49.

Koime and Wisil are expected to shatter or at least come close to the Oceania record during the Championships set to unfold Thursday.

The CNMI's Yvonne Bennett, her twin sister Yvette, and Jacq Wonenberg came in sixth, seventh, and eight (13.13, 13.51, and 13.70).

The men's century dash, mean-

See USUAL on Page 26

Whelan wins Silver Streak, pulls out of 5,000m

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Australia's Brendan Whelan was leading Tahiti's Teiva Izal in the men's 5000m before inexplicably pulling out as the 2008 Oceania Grand Prix began Saturday at the Oleai Track and Field.

In an interview after Day 1 of the Grand Prix, the 34-year-old Aussie said he took himself out of the race after completing the first 3000m of the event because the French Polynesian runner was clipping his heels.

"He was clipping my heels and I got annoyed, so to speak, and I just switched [it] off. I was only running the 3,000m [anyway] because I [already] did the 4.2-mile race this morning, the Silver Streak."

Whelan, who won the gold in the half marathon and the 5000m in Apia, Samoa two years ago, said he would pick up the pace only for Izal to clip him again. At one point, he said, he decided to slow down and let his competitor pass him, only to get clipped again.

"He just wouldn't pass me. He clipped me four times…I warned him. In the first 200m he clipped me and I sort of stumbled a bit and a couple of laps later he clipped me down the back straight. I told him to run wide and I warned him," added Whelan.

It was not the kind of book-end performance Whelan was expecting after the Aussie topped the 15th Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run in record fashion early in the day.

Whelan gave lo-

See WHELAN on Page 26

Adelbai takes out Taisacan in opening round

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

TRENCH TECH

Six months of training came down to a mere 28 seconds in the ring for Slade "The Rage" Adelbai in his semi main event bout against Neil "Lion Heart" Taisacan in Trench Warz VIII-Kontra Saturday night at the Trench Tech Gym.

Adelbai, who lost more than 80 lbs. and entered the Octagon a slim 188 lbs., came out the aggressor against the 210-lb. Taisacan.

He rushed out like raging bull from his blue corner a split second after the opening bell ran and pummeled the Haga Team fighter with a variety of head blows and kicks.

A few seconds later, the Palauan powerhouse—fighting out of Trench Tech—body-slammed Taisacan to the mat with a force heard by the more than 300 spectators that crammed the converted garment factory in San Antonio.

Adelbai then proceeded to deliver blows to Taisacan's head who appeared to be defenseless as he was unable to raise his arms to block his opponent's punishing blows.

Taisacan eventually tapped out and the referee had no choice but to declare the fight, "done."

Adelbai initially couldn't believe his opponent had given up so quickly and called him out to resume the fight, but after the smoke of battle cleared, it was revealed that Taisacan had suffered what was suspected to be a dislocated shoulder, rendering him unable to continue.

"I went through six months of training and I though it was going the distance but it was unfortunate that he popped his

See ADELBAI on Page 26

MARK MENDIOLA
Trench Tech's Slade "The Rage" Adelbai has his left hand raised by the referee after winning the semi main event of last Saturday's Trench Warz VII-Kontra at the Trench Tech Gym in San Antonio.

Joji leads winners in St. Jude golf

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Former national golfer Joji Taguchi led the winners of the 9th Annual St. Jude Golf Tournament after topping the Championship Flight last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

Taguchi finished the 18 holes of golf with a two-over 74 after negotiating the west course of the Kagman venue with identical 37s in the front and back nines.

Defending champion Jess Wabol finished second this time, three strokes off Taguchi's pace with a five-over 77 (39-38), while Alex Aquiningoc took third place with his nine-over 81 (44-37)

Taguchi's son Tim, meanwhile, won the A Flight after shooting a 36 in the front and a 40 in the back for a gross score of four-over 76.

Ben Jones and Asterio Tawanpiy finished tied in second place with both golfers needing 79 strokes to finish off the one round of golf in the fundraiser, but the former took the runner-up title after beating the latter in a tiebreak.

For the record Jones fired a 41 in the front and a 38 in the back, while Tawanpiy scored a 39-40.

In B Flight, Freddie Cataluna came away with a seven-over 79 to hold off challengers House

See JOJI on Page 26

JACQUELINE DELA CRUZ
Championship Flight winner Joji Taguchi is all smiles after receiving his trophy and cash prize from Fr. Charlie Borja and organizer Eli Maravilla during the awards banquet of the 9th Annual St. Jude Golf Tournament last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.